

Princess Basma returns after talks with EU

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma returned home from Brussels on Sunday after holding talks with senior European Union officials and members of the coordination committee of the non-governmental organisations (NGOs) on scopes of cooperation between Jordanian and European NGOs. Princess Basma Saturday discussed with Vice-President of the European Union and European Commissioner for Mediterranean Affairs Manuel Marin means of developing cooperation between Jordanian and European NGOs in the various fields, particularly in the field of humanitarian assistance. Princess Basma reviewed the role of Jordanian NGOs in the social field and the achievements for Jordanian women. Princess Basma was the guest of honour at a dinner hosted Sunday by President of the European Parliament Egon Klepach, who voiced appreciation to Jordan's active role in maintaining peace and stability in the region.

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Unit off to Croatia

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Abdul Hafez Mirai on Sunday saw off an armed forces unit which left for Croatia to join the United Nations peace-keeping forces there.

Qatar sends out meeting invitations

ABU DHABI (R) — Qatar, the only Gulf Arab state to hold ministerial talks with Israel, has started sending out invitations for the fifth multilateral Middle East talks on disarmament which will be held in May in Doha. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) said on Sunday it had received an invitation for the May 2-5 round in Qatar, the Emirates News Agency reported. Two Gulf Arab states will host two of the five multilateral rounds which are attended by more than 30 countries as part of the 1991 historic Madrid conference. Later this month, Oman will host the multilateral water talks and an Israeli team, the first to make a public visit to a Gulf Arab state, is expected to attend. The other multilateral rounds deal with economic development, the environment and the refugees problems created by several Arab-Israeli wars over the past 46 years.

Peres in Turkey

ANKARA (AP) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres arrived here on Sunday on an official visit to develop bilateral relations and update Turkey about developments in the Middle East peace process. Turkey, a Muslim but a secular country, has maintained diplomatic relations with Israel since the founding of the Jewish state in 1948. Mr. Peres was preceded in Turkey by Israeli President Ezer Weizman, who visited in January. Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin welcomed Mr. Peres at Esenboga airport and said there was "a great potential of cooperation" between the two countries. Mr. Peres will also meet with Prime Minister Tansu Ciller and President Suleyman Demirel.

Iraqi team heads for Paris

NICOSIA (AP) — An Iraqi parliamentary delegation left Baghdad for Paris Sunday to press for support in Iraq's campaign to break out of its international isolation. The Iraqi News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted delegation chief Abdul Karim Jilad as saying his team will attend a parliamentary conference in Paris to argue Iraq's case for lifting international sanctions that were imposed on Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

British Airways to stop Yemen flights

LONDON (R) — British Airways said on Sunday it was to lift its twice weekly flight to Yemen because of political uncertainty in the country and a steep decline in demand to travel there. British Airways resumed its flights every Tuesday and Saturday to Yemen just six months ago. They will be halted on May 8. "A steep decline in demand and general political uncertainty in the country as well as a lack of suitable agreement to allow the airline to continue to serve both Aden and Sanaa with the same flight" were given as the reasons behind the decision.

Zhirinovsky in France; Jews protest

PARIS (AP) — Russian ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovsky arrived in France on Sunday after the Paris government granted him a visa to attend the Council of Europe's parliamentary session in Strasbourg. Mr. Zhirinovsky landed at Charles de Gaulle airport outside Paris aboard an Aeroflot jet Sunday afternoon before taking another flight to the city on the German border, his arrival guarded by police. Jewish organisations called for a protest Monday in Strasbourg against the Russian lawmaker.



Three Muslim guards of Hebron's Ibrahim Mosque, arrested and released on bond for refusing to appear before an Israeli inquiry commission, wait on Sunday at a Jerusalem courthouse before testifying in the probe. Details of their testimony were not immediately available (APF photo).

Israel to keep W. Bank, Gaza shut until self-rule

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israel will keep the occupied territories shut until the plan for limited Palestinian self-rule is successfully in place, and start replacing Palestinian workers with labourers from Thailand and Eastern Europe, cabinet ministers said Sunday.

An announcement from the prime minister's office said only that the government decided to extend until further notice the closure in place since Wednesday, when a West Bank suicide-bomber killed seven Israelis and wounded 45 others in the northern town of Afula.

But Economics Minister Shimon Shetret said, "we assume the agreement (for self-rule) will be carried out in a few weeks, and after that it will be assessed ... according to that we will decide the continuation of the closure."

The closure will keep 60,000 Palestinian wage-earners from their jobs in Israel. The cabinet approved bringing in 18,000 foreign labourers to replace Palestinians in agriculture and construction, menial jobs that Israelis have traditionally refused to take. Although Israel's unemployment rate hovers at 10 per cent, welfare

checks tend to match the wages from such jobs.

"There is no exact limit day upon which the closure will be opened," said Housing Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer.

"I believe there is intention to leave it as it is even after the implementation of the (Palestinian self-rule) agreement," he told reporters after the cabinet meeting.

"The closure is for a long time," Agriculture minister Yaacov Tsur said after the cabinet meeting. "The prime minister again emphasised that the aim is a drastic reduction in the number of foreign (Palestinian) workers."

Leftist Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni, who opposes a long-term closure, said it would hamper the peace efforts and sink Palestinians deeper into poverty that would fuel violence.

"What is useful for us cannot come at the expense of nearly two million people (Palestinians) and bring them to the point of hunger," she said in a radio interview.

"If we want to advance peace, we have to let these people be more relaxed and allow (Palestine Liberation Organisation PLO — Chairman Yasser) Arafat to come to

an area where Hamas will not be in control, where there will be a better mood."

The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, is chief rival to the PLO's peace accord with Israel.

A U.N. official said the effects of a prolonged closure on Gaza's economy would be "devastating" plunging the strip into deeper recession and even causing malnutrition.

About 40,000 Palestinians from the West Bank and 20,000 from the Gaza Strip worked daily in Israel before the closure, mostly in low-paying jobs. Gaza's economy is heavily dependent on income from work in Israel.

According to U.N. estimates, unemployment in Gaza was 40 per cent before the closure and would now increase to 50 per cent. Per capita income is about \$800 a year.

Ms. Aloni said it was unjust to abruptly cut ties between Israel and the occupied territories because Israel had made the Palestinians wholly dependent on the Jewish state by stifling economic development during the 27-year-old occupation.

(Continued on page 5)

Rwandan violence ebbs, but tension remains high

KIGALI, Rwanda (Agencies) — Fighting abated Sunday in the capital of Rwanda, but the streets were still strewn with bodies, residents hid in fear and foreign troops scrambled to transport their nationals away from the carnage.

Thousands — perhaps tens of thousands — have died in the latest outbreak of slaughter between the Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups, one of Africa's longest and bloodiest feuds.

The Hutu-dominated "my and the mostly Tutsi Rwandan Patriotic Front reportedly agreed to a ceasefire on Sunday, but its effectiveness was in doubt.

"Both parties reached an agreement on a ceasefire and apart from some sporadic gunfire, it seems to be respected," Colonel Luc Marchal of the Belgian U.N. contingent in Kigali told Belgian television network RTBF.

But hours later, France-2 television broadcast comments from RPF leader Theogene Rudasingwa, who said: "We have little option" but to continue advancing towards Kigali, the capital.

Kigali, a green and hilly city of about 350,000, was gripped by savage chaos within hours after the presidents of Rwanda and neighbouring Burundi, both Hutus, died in a plane crash as they returned from a meeting aimed at finding a solution to the Hutu-Tutsi violence that has wracked their countries for decades.

targeted in the massacres.

Belgium landed fresh troops at Kigali airport on Sunday to help its U.N. peacekeeping contingent rescue 1,500 Belgian residents, the largest Western community in Rwanda and the foreign group most at risk in the tribal bloodbath.

It was unclear whether a rebel-army truce would check the slaughter of civilians in Kigali where bodies — mainly those of the rebels' Tutsi kinfolk — have been seen by foreigners lying in piles and overflowing morgues.

The Belgians' arrival, reported by BRTN radio in Brussels, followed an agreement with an interim Rwandan government formed on Saturday. France has sent 460 troops into Kigali and flown out two plane loads of its citizens. But it shared the airport with local soldiers who refused until late on Sunday to let in forces from Belgium, Rwanda's former colonial ruler.

Neighbouring Tanzania broadcast a report on Sunday of a parallel outbreak of tribal fighting in Burundi, whose head of state died in the same plane. But other sources said the Burundi capital, Bujumbura, was calm.

Burundi is the main escape route for Westerners fleeing Rwanda by road, including almost all Americans in Kigali. Rwanda and Burundi have both been wracked for decades by recurring conflict between the majority Hutu tribe and the warlike Tutsi.

The Rwanda patriotic front rebels, who hold territory north of the capital and had been promised a role in government under a peace agree-

ment now in ruins, are mainly Tutsi.

Soldiers and gangs of youths went on the rampage against Tutsi in the capital after the death of President Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu.

The rebels also have a force of 600 men stationed in Kigali's parliament building and pinned down by government troops.

Prosper Kayitare, an ethnic Tutsi resident of Kigali, said he and his family had hidden in their house for three days. "drinking water and eating salt" as their food ran out.

Although the city seemed quiet on Sunday, "we are afraid; we are waiting for gunshots," he told the Associated Press in Paris by telephone.

Patrick Gasser, deputy head of the International Committee of the Red cross in Kigali, when reached by telephone, told the AP of more than 1,000 bodies piled at the city's central hospital.

"The morgue is overflowing at the hospital," Mr. Gasser said. "We've asked people to dig mass graves."

Mr. Gasser, a Swiss national, said the death toll throughout the country could reach as high as 20,000.

Mark Billot, of the Belgian branch of the humanitarian organisation Doctors without Borders, told Belgian radio that 8,000 people have been killed in Kigali alone.

Foreigners generally have been spared the bloodshed. "We are not in any way threatened" by fighting between soldiers and rebels, Peter Andrews, a missionary in

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Israel, PLO resume talks facing deadline

CAIRO (Agencies) — Israeli and Palestinian negotiators resumed peace talks Sunday, four days before the deadline for Israel to complete a withdrawal from occupied territories that has not yet even begun.

While Palestinians have expressed hope of at least reaching an agreement defining the pullout by Wednesday's deadline, it seems almost certain — as Israeli officials have said — that the target date will be missed.

However, one published report said that negotiators have agreed it will take just two weeks for Israel's army to withdraw from the Gaza Strip and Jericho once a date is set for signing a document implementing the Israeli-PLO accord.

The accord, signed in Washington last Sept. 13, calls for Israel to withdraw from the Gaza Strip and Jericho in the West Bank to make way for Palestinian self-rule.

It set a deadline of Dec. 13 for starting the withdrawal which was missed as negotiations dragged on — and listed this Wednesday as the date for the pullout to be completed.

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat complained about

the slow pace of negotiations in a phone conversation Sunday with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the PLO news agency Wafa reported.

It quoted Mr. Arafat as warning that Israeli failure to respect the deadlines "will reflect negatively on the whole peace process and undermine its course and credibility."

In Cairo, the head of the Israeli delegation, Major General Amnon Shahak, declined to speak with reporters as Sunday's negotiations started under noticeably tighter security.

Asked about the possibility of reaching agreement this week, the usually talkative head of the PLO team, Nabil Shaath, replied only "We will do our best."

The deadline is effectively Tuesday, since Wednesday is Israel's memorial day for its war dead and Thursday is the 46th anniversary of the Jewish state's creation in what had been Palestine.

In an interview Saturday, Dr. Shaath told the Associated Press that a major sticking point was a legal agreement being negotiated between the two sides.

"It's a monstrosity," Dr. Shaath said, "a potential

agreement breaker."

Dr. Shaath said Israel wanted legal jurisdiction over Jews and foreigners not only in Jewish settlements but also in areas to be given over to Palestinian self-rule. Palestinians want jurisdiction over anyone in their areas, he said.

Dr. Shaath also said the PLO and Israel settled at least one major dispute in talks last week, agreeing 9,000 Palestinian police would deploy in Gaza and Jericho.

However, he said the negotiators still were debating whether 6,500 or 7,000 of the police will come from outside the two territories and whether the initial contingent will be 1,000 or 300 police.

The British newspaper the Independent on Sunday reported that negotiators agreed the advance Palestinian police contingent will deploy seven days before the agreement is signed.

A week after the signing, the police will be fully deployed and Israeli forces will have withdrawn except for those who will remain behind to guard Jewish settlements, the Independent said.

It said each policeman will

(Continued on page 10)

Beidh deputy says Jordan, Oman should not halt mediation

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Member of the Yemeni Presidential Council and Assistant Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) Saleh Mohammad arrived here Sunday to brief Jordanian leaders on the situation in his country.

In an arrival statement, Mr. Mohammad said his visit to Jordan was part of a tour aimed at briefing Arab leaders on the latest developments in Yemen and seeking their support for Yemen to help it overcome its problems.

He called on Arab countries to support the joint Jordanian-Omani efforts to solve the political crisis in Yemen.

Mr. Mohammad praised Jordan's political and military efforts to end the Yemeni crisis and said he would brief His Majesty King Hussein on the latest developments in Yemen and call on him to pursue his efforts to solve the problem.

Mr. Mohammad welcomed any contribution by Arab countries to end the political crisis in Yemen.

Asked about implementation of the reconciliation accord signed by the various Yemeni parties in Amman on Feb. 20, Mr. Mohammad said dialogue between various parties is going on.

"What concerns us in these circumstances is to end the terrible military course and strengthen dialogue in order to implement the accord," he said.

The Yemeni official stressed that the first step to enforce the Amman reconciliation accord was to normalise relations in Yemen, by implementing the provisions of the accord, starting with security matters.

The delegation accompanying Dr. Mohammad includes Abdul Aziz Al Dali, member of the political bureau of the YSP and chairman of the party's political department. The Yemeni officials were received by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Talal Al Hassan, Secretary-General of the Royal Court Munir Durra, Yemeni Ambassador to Jordan Ali Abu Lahoum, and Said Mohammad Saleh, a senior embassy official.

Arab mediators go to Aden

Arab mediators went to Aden on Sunday for talks with Yemen's Vice President Ali Salem Al Beidh on ways of settling the country's crisis after similar talks with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, political sources said in Sanaa.

Egyptian Information Minister Safwat Sharif and United

Arab Emirates (UAE) Foreign Minister Rashed Abdullah Al Nuaimi were expected to discuss with Mr. Beidh their joint effort to narrow the gap between the southern leader and the northern president, Reuter reported.

A new summit between Mr. Saleh and Mr. Beidh, sponsored by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ben Sultan Al Nahayan, could be held in Cairo if the mediation succeeded, diplomatic sources said.

Details were not known of the new mediation, the latest by Arab leaders to iron out differences between the two men who engineered the 1990 merger between North and South Yemen.

Mr. Sharif and Mr. Nuaimi passed on to Mr. Saleh on Saturday a joint message from their leaders who want to help settle the crisis in order to maintain the unity of Yemen, the diplomatic sources said.

They said Egypt was not willing to host a meeting between the Yemeni leaders if guarantees for the success of the talks were not first agreed upon in Yemen.

"Egypt and the UAE are not willing to risk their reputation over a meeting that could mark

(Continued on page 5)

NATO planes bomb Serb positions besieging Gorazde

SARAJEVO (Agencies) — North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) warplanes bombed areas near the town of Gorazde on Sunday after Bosnian Serb forces broke through key government defences to reach the outskirts of the town, U.N. officials said.

Major Dacre Holloway, a U.N. military spokesman in Sarajevo, said two NATO jets dropped bombs Sunday evening. No other details were immediately available.

Military sources in Washington said the jets were U.S. F-16s.

A U.N. source in Belgrade, speaking on condition of anonymity, said there had been two airstrikes and Bosnian Serbs responded with anti-aircraft fire.

It was the first time since Bosnia's war began two years ago that the United Nations carried through on its threat to use airstrikes. In late February, NATO war jets downed

four Serb planes violating the "no fly zone" over Bosnia.

Shortly before the U.N. announcement, Charles Redman, the U.S. special envoy on former Yugoslavia, told reporters in Sarajevo that the situation in Bosnia was "very serious because of the Serb advances."

A NATO spokesman confirmed NATO planes launched airstrikes on Sunday near Gorazde.

"I can confirm that close air support has been provided on UNPROFOR (United Nations Protection Force) request," the spokesman told Reuters.

U.N. officials said earlier that Serb forces had entered the suburbs of Gorazde on Sunday, but the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug quoted the Bosnian Serb army as denying this (see page 8).

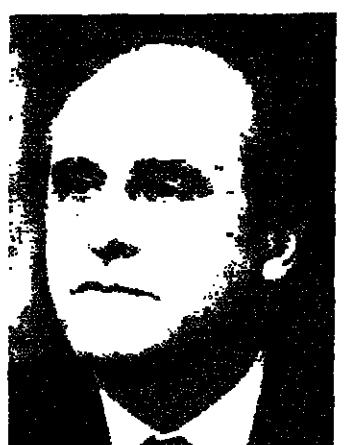
U.N. military officers dismissed as propaganda Muslim reports that Bosnian Serbs had launched a chemical weapon attack on Gorazde.

Bosnian Vice-President Ejup Ganic, on a visit to Turkey, said he had received reports that Serb forces used chemicals in their latest onslaught on the enclave.

"from my telephone conversations and from amateur radiomen, I have learnt that unfortunately the Serbs have used chemical weapons against Gorazde," Anatolian news agency quoted him as saying in Istanbul.

U.N. officers said what the Muslims described as chemical weapons were smoke mortars intended to create a pall of smoke on the battlefield to obscure the enemy's vision and sow confusion.

A smoke mortar emits sulphurous gas similar to tear-gas and anyone standing near the explosion can suffer skin burns. But it is not meant to kill and the U.N. Protection Force knows of no cases of serious injury from smoke mortars in Gorazde.



Thomas Klitsel

Austrian president arrives today

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Austrian President Thomas Klitsel arrives here today on a three-day state visit described as aimed at consolidating relations and exploring new areas of cooperation between Austria and Jordan as well as exchanging views on regional and international issues.

One of the key topics for discussions between His Majesty King Hussein and Dr. Klitsel, who will be paying his second visit to Jordan after assuming office last year, will be the 29-month-old Arab-Israeli peace process and Austria's role in the effort to reach a solution to the Middle East conflict.

Austria is a strong supporter of the peace process and chairs the multilateral working group in Middle East water-sharing. Beyond that, "we believe that the visit will be an excellent opportunity to further enhance Austrian-Jordanian relations, which are already very warm and strong," said Michael Stigebauer, Austria's ambassador to Jordan.

Mr. Stigebauer said President Klitsel, who began a visit to Syria on Saturday, was accompanied by Erich Wittmann, deputy minister of public economy and transport, and high-ranking officials from the foreign ministry.

In addition, Austrian businessmen in the tourism and energy sectors as well as a team of journalists are accompanying the president.

According to Austrian officials, Jordan could benefit from Austrian expertise in renewable energy and energy management, an area in which the country has had extensive experience.

In general, "there are many areas of cooperation that have not been explored yet between Austria and Jordan, and we hope we could have discussions on these issues during the president's visit," the ambassador said.

Michael Angerer, the commercial secretary at the Austrian embassy, said talks during the visit would focus on cooperation in tourism, energy, health, mining and water as well as general trade relations. Austrian exports to Jordan totalled around \$26 million in 1993 while Jordan exported goods worth around \$1 million to Austria. Austrian businessmen also held a trade seminar here in Amman last year.

Mr. Stigebauer said there were not outstanding issues between Jordan and Austria. "We believe that friendship between people has to be nurtured with continuous meetings," he said of the presidential visit. "Otherwise the friendship will wither away."

The ambassador said Jordan was interested in developing relations with Eastern European countries and Austria could play a significant role in this context in view of its traditionally strong relations in that region and its proximity to some of the former Soviet bloc allies.

King Hussein made a stop-over in Austria on his way back from the U.S. after medical check-ups and talks with President Bill Clinton in

(Continued on page 5)

Top police officer shot dead in Cairo

CAIRO (Agencies) — Gunmen assassinated Egypt's top anti-terrorism officer Saturday night in a fiery attack on his car as he left his house near the Giza Pyramids.

The Interior Ministry said Major General Raouf Khayrat, the deputy chief of state security intelligence in charge of religious terrorist activities, died instantly.

It was among the most spectacular operations in the Cairo area during a two-year campaign by extremists to supplant Egypt's largely secular government with a strict Islamic one. More than 330 people have died, mostly extremists and police.

Khayrat was assassinated three weeks after a military court sentenced nine radicals to die for trying to assassinate Prime Minister Atef Sedki with a bomb that missed him but killed a 12-year-old girl.

At the sentencing, the defendants vowed that their colleagues would exact revenge from President Hosni Mubarak and others in the Egyptian power structure. Mr. Mubarak has since confined the death sentences, but so far as is known the men have not been hanged.

Police said Khayrat was cut down in a torrent of machine-gun bullets as he drove away from his house unescorted. The assailants then threw at least one grenade into his car, setting it ablaze and incinerating the general's body.

They escaped in a car, but Khayrat's neighbours reported to police the license number. Egyptian extremists often use stolen vehicles in their attacks.

Police sources reported that some witnesses told of seeing the gunmen make their initial getaway on a motorcycle, which they then abandoned. But the Interior Ministry, in charge of police, said that could not be confirmed.

Khayrat's assassination is a major blow to the government for several reasons. It brought such violence back to Cairo, which had been free of major attacks since an assault on a tour bus last December injured eight Austrians and several Egyptians.

It also showed a major flaw in police security in that an officer of Khayrat's rank and position should be travelling

without guards and in such a manner that an ambush could be set for him.

And the attack demonstrated that despite police killings of many suspects this year, and government claims that radicals are on the verge of liquidation, they remain a force sufficiently potent and organised to hunt down and kill the man assigned to destroy them.

Police recognised the significance of the hit. Khayrat died at 9:50 p.m. (1950 GMT). Within an hour, roadblocks had gone up as far away as near the town centre eight kilometres away, on a bridge crossing the Nile at the Arab League headquarters.

The Interior Ministry said its top forensic experts were dispatched to the scene of the attack.

The militant Gamaa Al Islamiyah (Islamic Group) has killed dozens of policemen in Assiut this year but its only recent operations in Cairo have been a series of bombs at banks which ignore the Islamic ban on usury.

Militant activity had declined in the past two weeks and the government has been publicising its successes in persuading militants to surrender to the authorities.

Gen. Khayrat, 53, was a secret operative in Egypt's intelligence war against the militants. He used a code-name, wore plain clothes and had no bodyguards in order not to attract attention, security sources said.

He had spent 20 years monitoring militant groups, starting long before they were considered a major security threat in Egypt, and headed a little-known section of state security called the department for combating religious activity.

Security sources said it was not exactly clear immediately how the gunmen had tracked down Khayrat to his house but the attack was another sign that militants might have penetrated Egypt's security forces.

It was an army lieutenant in an official parade who assassinated the late President Anwar Sadat in 1981.

Last month, Egypt executed an army officer and two army conscripts for planting explosives at an airbase in readiness for a visit by President Hosni



The wreckage of a car after a bomb exploded in front of a bank in Cairo on March 31. The killing on Sunday of a senior security officer in Cairo

was the most serious extremist attack after an apparent but short-lived decline in extremism in the Egyptian capital (AFP photo)

Mubarak.

In the radicals' stronghold in southern Egypt on Sunday, unidentified gunmen killed a policeman in the village of Al Qusiya, police said. Witnesses said two men dressed in Western clothes — not in the robes of hardliners — shot to death

plainclothes policeman Ali Sabit Al Mabady near his home and stole his gun.

After the slaying, police rounded up 16 suspects for questioning in Al Qusiya, about 320 kilometres south of Cairo.

No claim of responsibility

was made for the killing of Khayrat, a father of two sons and a daughter and whose own father, Abdul Hamid Khayrat, also was a top security official.

Police have recovered a motorcycle and a yellow Mitsubishi auto believed used in the assassination, officials said.

Fadlallah urges Iraqis to revolt

DAMASCUS (AP) — A leading Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim cleric called on Iraq's opposition factions Sunday to unite and return to their homeland to oust "the tyrant Saddam Hussein."

Sheikh Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual leader of the Iran-backed Hizbollah, also denounced the U.S.-sponsored Middle East peace process and called on all "Muslim and Christian Arab fighters" to fight Iraq.

"The Iraqi opposition should return to Iraq and struggle there to toppling the regime," he declared.

Most of the anti-Saddam factions are operating in exile. A score of the leading groups, including Kurdish separatists, Arab nationalists and Islamic fundamentalists, are allied under the Iraqi National Congress (INC) headquarters in Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq.

Some groups have offices in Syria, Iran's main Arab ally. Sheikh Fadlallah, who has

close links with Tehran, accused Washington of trying to form a "U.S.-dominated Iraqi opposition" and dominate the region "so that Arabs will have no say whatsoever."

The Americans, and their British allies, are sympathetic to the INC.

But the dissidents say Washington has done little to provide them with weapons or money in their campaign against President Saddam, or seriously tried to topple him.

The Western powers are far from convinced that the Iraqi opposition is capable of toppling President Saddam or providing an alternative government.

Sheikh Fadlallah was commemorating the 14th anniversary of the death of Ayatollah Mohammad Bakr Al Sadr, a leading Shi'ite cleric and Iraqi opposition figure executed with his sister in April 1980.

On the Middle East peace process, Sheikh Fadlallah accused all the parties involved

on wanting an "American solution."

"Look at the American solution in Palestine," he said, referring to Sept. 13 Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Israel accord in which Israel will grant initial autonomy to the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho, rather than full independence for the territories.

Iran is a leading opponent to the peace process, even though Syria and Lebanon are participating. Hizbollah guerrillas in Lebanon, armed and financed by Tehran, are almost daily attacking the Israeli-occupied sector of South Lebanon.

Sheikh Fadlallah declared: "I say he who usurps a piece of Palestinian land is an enemy... and he who builds a settlement (in the occupied lands) is an enemy as well."

He appealed to all "Muslim and Christian Arab fighters" to unite and rip out "the Israeli thorn which the European coloniser has sown in Palestinian soil."

Majlis speaker begins Asian visit amid Tehran moves to build new ties

NICOSIA (AP) — Iran's powerful parliament speaker left Tehran Sunday for a 10-day tour of Pakistan, Malaysia and Sri Lanka to cement economic ties and discuss oil, gas and transport projects, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, said Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri was accompanied by Oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh, Transportation Minister Akbar Torkan and senior officials.

Speaking to reporters before leaving for the Pakistani capital, Islamabad for a five-day visit, Mr. Nateq-Nouri said he will discuss construction of a joint oil refinery in Pakistan and laying a gas pipeline via Pakistan to India.

He said Iran also wants to connect its railway network running from the Gulf to Pakistan's system.

The Iranians are trying to integrate their transportation networks in a bid to emerge as the gateway to resource-rich central Asia.

Tehran, assailed by the United States as a rogue state that sponsors international "terrorism," has in recent months stepped up its efforts to forge new political and economic links with Islamic countries and others.

Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati recently made a five-nation African tour.

Iran and Pakistan, both Muslim countries, have widened military cooperation in recent months, raising concern in the West that Islamabad may be helping Tehran with a clan-

destine nuclear weapons programme.

Pakistan says it has the capability and the equipment to build a nuclear bomb, but has not done so.

Iran has denied Western intelligence reports that it is engaged in efforts to acquire a nuclear capability.

In February, the Iranians held joint naval exercises with Pakistan, the first wargames the Islamic republic has ever held with another state, to benefit from Pakistan's expertise in submarine warfare.

Over the past two years the Iranians have bought a pair of Kilo-class diesel-electric subs from Russia. Iran is the only Gulf country with submarines.

Economic issues would be the focus of talks in Malaysia and Sri Lanka, Mr. Nateq-Nouri said.

The Malaysians are interested in investing in Iran's free-trade zones, IRNA quoted Dato Adnan Othman, Malaysia's ambassador in Tehran, as saying.

"There are several industrial projects which are in the pipeline and to be put into practice after completion of studies in the Iranian free-trade zone," he said in an interview published Sunday in the English-language Tehran Times.

Iran has been trying to forge better ties with Malaysia in recent years to benefit from one of the fastest growing economies in Southeast Asia.

The Iranians also have approved of Malaysia's apparent tilt towards a more fundamentalist version of Islam.

Mr. Nateq-Nouri said Iran

had considerable trade with Sri Lanka, which would be the focus of discussions with officials there.

Iran-Cuba accord

Iran and Cuba signed a protocol Sunday calling for closer cooperation, IRNA reported.

The agency said a letter of understanding calling for scientific, cultural and technical cooperation was signed in Tehran by Cuba's deputy foreign minister, Nicolas Rodriguez and Iran's deputy foreign minister, Mahmoud Vaezi.

Mr. Rodriguez also met Sunday with Iran's minister of agriculture, Issa Kalantari, who announced his country's readiness to cooperate with Havana in various fields, IRNA said.

Iran and Cuba are both vehemently hostile to Washington.

Czech Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Vondra met Sunday with Iran's deputy minister of energy, Majid Qassemi, IRNA said in a separate dispatch. The two called for cooperation in energy, IRNA said.

Three ministries merged

The Iranian parliament on Sunday approved a bill to merge the ministries of industry, heavy industry and mining, Tehran Television reported.

The broadcast said the three ministries will be fused into a single portfolio, the Ministry of Industry and Mines.

The bill still needs to be ratified by the Guardian Council, which acts as upper house of the Majlis.

Even with allied cover, Kurds fear Iraqi army

By Katarina Bjarrvall
The Associated Press

ERBIL, Iraq — Abdullah Goran's stone house needs repairs, but he does not fix it even though he has plenty of money.

"What's the use?" he said. "Saddam Hussein might come back one day."

The 60-year-old landowner, clad traditionally in a red-and-white turban and baggy pants, sat before a dank, mildewed wall hung with framed photographs of himself and his friends. The roof leaked and strips of peeling white paint dangled from the ceiling.

Less than a kilometre away, across the green flatlands of northern Iraq, Iraqi troops are dug in with tanks and artillery along the 36th Parallel, the southern boundary of the self-governing Kurdish enclave.

The boundary is a constant affront to the Iraqi government, whose forces have killed thousands of Kurds in its effort to crush them.

Many of the estimated three million Kurds in the enclave are as uncertain of the future as Mr. Goran, even as they build a new state after half a century of fighting for a homeland.

Mr. Goran is afraid to take his several Swedish tractors onto land near the line. Twice, he has abandoned his home in the town of Bardarash because of Baghdad's scorched-earth campaigns against the Kurds.

The Kurdish zone is protected by allied warplanes based in Turkey and helped by \$150 million in U.N. aid. But it is a precarious existence under constant threat from Baghdad.

In recent days, the Iraqi regime has reinforced its northern army to an estimated strength

of 100,000, including at least one division of the elite Republican Guard.

Although officials in Baghdad describe the military movements as mere training exercises, the Kurdish chief of security, Karim Sanjari, said, "We believe Saddam wants to move against us, but we don't know when."

"Many people have already packed their bags and are ready to run if anything happens," said Hoshyar Zebari, a senior official of the Kurdistan Democratic Party.

The allies established the enclave as a haven for the Kurds, to keep the government from taking revenge for an uprising after its defeat in the Gulf war of 1991.

Increasingly, it is coming to resemble an independent state, with a 15-member government and a 105-seat parliament elected in 1992.

About 20 million Kurds, a people of Indo-European origin, are spread across Iraq, Iran, Turkey and Syria. Half a million still are under Baghdad's control, but the rest of Iraq's Kurds lie in the 50,000-square-kilometre enclave.

David Phillips, president of the U.S. congressional Human Rights Foundation, reported after a recent visit: "Democratic institutions have taken root... but without a continued commitment from the international community, Saddam is poised to launch new attacks."

The Kurds, about one-fifth of Iraq's population, know they are vulnerable. There may be scores of allied warplanes in Turkey, but no allied troops are at hand to support the 30,000 guerrilla fighters, who have no heavy weapons.

Massoud Barzani, a Kurdish leader whose father was the legendary guerrilla chief Mustafa Barzani, told the Associated Press: "If the U.S. mandate is lifted, it will mean genocide for the Kurds. The international community gives us no support. They've sold weapons to Iraq and these are being used against us."

"The Kurds have a long history of the betrayal by Western and regional powers. They feel abandoned now, despite the air cover, because the West has not removed the Iraqi regime or provided economic aid."

Kurds make no secret of their desire for complete independence, but their leaders speak in public only of an autonomous Kurdistan within an Iraqi federal system.

They know the existence of an independent state would antagonise Iran, Turkey and Syria, all of which have separatist Kurdish minorities.

"Things are better now because we're free," Ramziyeh Hassan said as she fed her seven children a sparse meal of tomatoes, cucumbers and yogurt mixed with water at her home in Zakho, near Turkey.

"All we have are economic problems. We hope we'll be completely free one day, God willing."

One of the biggest of those problems is a double trade embargo.

As part of Iraq, Kurds suffer the U.N. sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990. In October 1991, Iraq put its own blockade on the Kurdish zone as part of a war of nerves that included shelling, bombing and sabotage.

Iraqi security forces harass Kurds who live in northern areas outside the enclave and more refugees arrive every day, telling of arbitrary arrests, brutality and killings.

Iran moves to regulate satellite dishes

By Didrikke Schanche
The Associated Press

NICOSIA — Wary of Western influences polluting its conservative Muslim culture, Iran plans to strictly regulate the use and ownership of satellite dishes.

Interior Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati told the Tehran Times in an interview published Sunday that Iran's cabinet was considering rules drawn up by Muslim fundamentalists on the use and ownership of dishes.

The move came amid a cultural crackdown by the government under pressure from Muslim hardliners who seek to rekindle revolutionary fervour among Iran's 60 million people at a time when it seems to be waning because of severe economic problems.

The crackdown on satellite dishes is one of several measures underway in Iran, where the influence of militant fundamentalists is clearly growing within the hierarchy.

Mr. Besharati said a decision will be made within a month, noting that foreign diplomatic

missions would be allowed to use dishes if they applied for permission.

He said that a special commission comprising officials from the Islamic Propagation Organisation and the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance would draw up the rules regulating dishes.

The Iranian move comes one month after Saudi Arabia ended a brief alliance with satellite television triggered by the 1990-91 Kuwait crisis.

The theocratic government bowed to calls from Islamic hardliners and banned dishes which can pull in dozens of uncensored television stations from around the globe.

Dishes are extremely popular throughout the oil-rich Middle East, where local broadcasting is tightly controlled.

But powerful Muslim fundamentalists fear the uncensored movies, news, music and television programmes will infect the region with "western decadence."

Last year in Kuwait, Islamist groups left pamphlets in mosques, at doorsteps and at stores

equating satellite dishes with the deadly disease, AIDS, and warning people against getting a dish and becoming infected with the "customs and traditions of the infidels."

"The use of satellite dishes is not illegal, but will need to be authorised," Mr. Besharati told the Tehran Times.

Mr. Besharati did not say what fines or punishments would be imposed against offenders.

But Iran's prosecutor-general, Ayatollah Mosavi Tabrizi, recently said that the spread of dishes "must be prevented by all means... steps can be taken in the form of religious restrictions for forbidding evil."

In an example of just how harsh those steps can be, those convicted of distributing videos considered pornographic may be executed as "corrupt on earth."

In the last two years, satellite dish sales have mushroomed in Iran, with as many as 400 installed in Tehran daily, the Tehran Times said.

Iran has two state-run television channels, both heavily censored.

In an effort to control what is considered the West's "cultural onslaught," Iran has established a special government department to copy foreign television programmes on video and distribute these on a national basis, cutting out a widespread and lucrative trade in pirated videos.

The Media Vision organisation has said it plans to operate one million video shops and monitor foreign TV programmes through 12 satellites installed on the roof of its headquarters.

In February, Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei initiated a major shakeup in the top echelon of officials in broadcasting and maintaining the country's Islamic purity.

He dismissed Mohammad Hashemi, brother of President Hashemi Rafsanjani, as head of the state broadcasting network after widespread criticism of the growing number of "un-Islamic" Western programmes it was using even though these were censored.

Ayatollah Khamenei named Ali Larijani, the minister of culture and Islamic guidance, to take over as broadcasting chief.

He was ordered to transform the television and radio network "into a centre to guide the Muslim people of Iran and other admirers of Iran's revolutionary call."

Mr. Larijani was replaced at the Ministry of Culture by veteran hardliner Mostafa Mirsalim, with instructions to purge Western influences in the Islamic republic.

In Saudi Arabia, the ban on dishes did not stop their use or installation. Shopkeepers continue to clandestinely install the devices and most hotels, housing complexes and individual home-owners have yet to comply with the ban.

Even before the ban, many owners were hiding dishes behind brick walls or under tarpaulins from the "muttawa," the religious police, who smashed dish antennas found atop private apartment blocks.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

17:30 ... Le Aventures De L'Espace
18:30 ... Beaumanoir
18:41 ... L'Ecole Des Fous
19:00 ... News in French
19:15 ... The Weekly Sports Magazine
19:30 ... News in Hebrew
20:00 ... News in Arabic
20:30 ... The Nanny
21:00 ... Out of the Past
22:30 ... News in English
23:20 ... Top Cops

PRAYER TIMES

04:48 ... Fajr
06:08 ... (Sunrise) Duha
12:57 ... Dhuhr
16:12 ... 'Asr
19:05 ... Maghrib
20:25 ... 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swellish, Tel. 810740
Archdiocese of God Church, Tel. 637285
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrace Church Tel: 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 652526
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 684195
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675091
The Evangelical Local Church in Amman Tel. 811295

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Temperatures will continue their gradual rise becoming above average with winds appearing at different altitudes and winds becoming southeasterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Amman 10 / 27
Aqaba 15 / 32
Deserts 7 / 28

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Farouk Nour 786690
Dr. Raed Zaitoun 889085
Dr. Jihad Zyadeh 881148
Dr. Bahjat Badr 849362
Firas pharmacy 661912
Firdous pharmacy 776336
Al Aqema pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 625672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shamsi pharmacy 637660
Nairoukh pharmacy 625672
Najib pharmacy 847632

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 63021
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101
Abdull Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 773111
Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority

680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/22
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Akil Maternity, J. Amn 64241/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shamsi 641714
Shamsi Hospital 649131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Muasher Hospital 66722/9
The Islamic, Abdull 666127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdull 664164/6
Italian, Al-Mahjoun 777012
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marica 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Assi Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)900560
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hikmah Modern Hospital (09)909990

Water Authority

680100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power
Company 636381
RJ Flight Information 08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport 08-53200

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
06:10 Sanaa (RJ)
07:35 Damascus (RJ)
08:30 Jeddah (RJ)
10:30 Riyadh (RJ)
10:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
11:00 Beirut (RJ)
11:00 New Delhi (RJ)
11:15 Madrid (add) (RJ)
17:45 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

CALLING FOR INTERACTION: Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali Sunday underlines the important role of the Ministry of Agriculture in offering guidance to farmers and calls for activating interaction between the ministry's personnel and the country farmers. At a meeting of the ministry's heads of departments, attended by Agriculture Minister Mohammad Mahdi Farhan, Dr. Majali said that forest tree cultivation on the sides of roads and state-owned lands should be stepped up, adding that farmers should also be instructed to surround their lands with trees.



Educationists begin critical look at national education strategy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A seminar entitled "Educational Development—Second Stage" opened here Sunday with a critical assessment of the progress in the implementation of the National Education Strategy charted in 1987 and its future outlook.

Deputising for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Minister of Education Khaled Omari addressed the opening session by reviewing the achievements and steps taken over the last six years in activating the strategy.

This stage, Dr. Omari said, included programmes to upgrade teaching methods, build new schools and maintain existing ones and introduce new textbooks.

The first paper presented at the morning session, titled "School as a Basic Unit for Educational and Social Development" and presented by Mahmoud Massad, was viewed by many participants in the seminar as a collection of ideas floated by the minister of education himself during his meetings with ministry officials, and that it failed to present a mechanism for implementing those ideas. In response to these charges, Dr. Omari countered that this paper was indeed a



Participants attend the opening session of a two-day seminar organised by the Ministry of Education to assess the country's implementation of its National Strategy of Education (Petra photo)

future model and that it is the responsibility of the pedagogues participating in the seminar to present their recommendations on means to implement it.

"We have been lecturing on this topic for over a year now, and none of you gentlemen bothered to write a paper about it or discuss it with the media."

Dr. Omari then took the initiative and presented several recommendations to the concerned committee to be incorporated in the final summary and recommendations of the two-day seminar.

A second paper titled "Cur-

ricula and Teaching Techniques," presented by Ahmad Hyasat, of the General Directorate for Curricula and Teaching Techniques, included the achievements in drafting new textbooks and the difficulties encountered in that process, mainly the lack of proper funds and qualified people to undertake the task.

A paper by Abdul Razzaq Ma'ani, of the General Directorate for Scholarships Projects and Buildings, said that through its various projects in this field, the ministry was able to reduce the percentage of students in rented school buildings from 50 per cent to 14 per

cent. Various queries by the attendees focused on the maintenance of school buildings, making sure that they are constructed according to proper specifications and providing schools with proper heating/cooling systems.

A final paper in Saturday's session, by Mohammad Obaidat of the General Directorate for Exams and Educational Evaluation, called for a new modernised system of exams which would give a true evaluation of the students' learning abilities rather than their ability to memorise the curricula.

RJ's first quarter gross earnings go up by 16.5% — senior official

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Royal Jordanian (RJ), the national carrier, increased its gross income by 16.5 per cent to JD 81 million in the first three months of the year over the corresponding period for 1993, a senior RJ official said Sunday.

The comments came against the backdrop of a decision by the government to increase the capital of the airline from JD 22 million to JD 57 million and help the carrier reschedule half of its domestic debts of about JD 200 million.

RJ Vice-President Majdi Sabri, in comments carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, attributed the increase in the gross revenues of the airline to a boost in passenger traffic.

Dr. Sabri said the airline carried 274,000 passengers during the first three months of 1994 compared with 230,000 during the corresponding period of 1993, reflecting an increase of 18.9 per cent.

Also contributing to the increase in revenues was a higher volume of freight carried by the airline during the

same period, Dr. Sabri said. The increase in freight was 1.1 per cent, he said.

RJ flights registered an increase of occupancy rates from 56.7 per cent during the first three months of 1993 to 64 per cent during the same period of this year, Dr. Sabri said.

The RJ official said a higher number of tourists were coming to Jordan, particularly from Europe, and RJ operations along European routes have increased by one-third in the first quarter of this year.

The airline also increased its flights to North America, the Far East and the Gulf, he said.

Dr. Sabri said RJ would be able to sustain the increase in revenues for the rest of the year because of increasing tourist traffic, the hajj (pilgrimage) season in May and the expected return of expatriates who want to spend their summer holidays at home.

Industry sources noted that the airline was scheduled to take delivery of an Airbus-320 plane in June and this would enable it to increase operations and flight frequencies.

The airline's present fleet



Majdi Sabri

consists of 16 planes — four Airbus-310s, three Airbus-320s, five TriStars, two Boeing 727s and three Boeing 707s.

According to official figures, the airline lost JD 134 million since its establishment in 1963. The bulk of the loss was incurred as a result of the devaluation of the dinar in 1988/89 and the Gulf crisis of 1990/91.

The airline posted a net operational profit of JD 2 million in 1993.

Meanwhile, no official comment was available on

Sunday over the government decision to increase the airline's capital and reschedule its debt.

Officials said in private the government was planning quick moves to implement its decision and would be launching debt rescheduling talks with the local creditors soon.

Said Al Tal, director-general of the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company, said he had been informed that the government would negotiate a rescheduling of part of the JD 74 million owed to his company.

Mr. Tal said no figures were given, nor was a date set for negotiations.

Other major local creditors include a consortium of local banks and the Social Security Corporation.

External creditors include a Paris-based consortium of international banks which financed Royal Jordanian's leasing of up to Airbus planes in the late 1980s.

The government has asked KPMG Peat management consultants of London to recommend a mechanism for privatisation which would ensure majority Jordanian ownership.

A technical committee is supervising the study.

Ministry has no plans to privatise government hospitals, says Malhas

By Elia Nasrallah

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Health Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas Sunday denied that the Ministry of Health planned to privatise government hospitals in Jordan, stressing that the ministry was only contemplating several ideas to improve the work of these hospitals and to provide incentives.

"There is no truth to some local press reports that appeared Saturday saying that the health ministry was planning to privatise 20 hospitals as a first step; and the reports' reference to the discussion at a meeting of the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) General Assembly Friday on hospital improve-

ments was taken out of context," Dr. Malhas told the Jordan Times.

Dr. Malhas said that he had simply suggested examining the system applied in Germany as an example for possible application in Jordan.

In Germany, he explained, the government sets up hospitals and their infrastructure and leaves the operation and administration to local health care professionals.

Dr. Malhas added that such a system allows for better performance without direct supervision from the health ministry.

He said he explained to doctors employed by the

health ministry that the government was not in a position to offer them pay increases indiscriminately, but would introduce a system of incentives whereby physicians could earn more by working harder.

The suggestion to study the German system, said Dr. Malhas, was part of endeavours to help doctors probe ideas along these lines.

The minister said he has asked the JMA and its various committees to come up with other ideas that can be discussed before any plans for improving hospital services can be applied.

JMA President Ishaq Maraqa told the Jordan Times that any moves to im-



Abdul Rahim Malhas

prove the income of doctors and ensure good quality service to patients would be welcome.

Dr. Maraqa said that the JMA would rather wait for a clearer idea to emerge from the government before expressing its views on the subject.

Women's union rejects merger, agrees to minor name change

By Natasha Bukhari

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Jordanian Women's Union (JWU) Saturday rejected a demand by the Ministry of Social Development to merge with the General Federation of Jordanian Women (GFJW), but agreed to the alternate demand to change its name.

"We are not uniting with any other organisation and we agreed on changing our name to become the Jordanian Women's Union, which was the union's original name," said Hafsa Jamal.

Ms. Jamal, a JWU administrative member, had expressed disappointment at the issuance of a memorandum last week by the Ministry of Social Development demanding that the union either change its name or merge with the GFJW.

Members of the JWU described such a demand as an infringement on union's rights and refused to comply with the merger option.

They said that the Ministry of Social Development had no authority over them, particularly as the union was registered under the Ministry of Interior, which is the governing authority of such organisations.

In a meeting held by the union's administrative members Saturday evening, a decision to change the union's

name was taken.

"We are clinging on to our independence since it is something we have earned and plan to keep," one member told the Jordan Times Sunday.

Ms. Jamal told the Jordan Times that the meeting Saturday also addressed many other issues, the most compelling of which was attending the International Women's Federations Conference in Beijing, which is scheduled to be held next year.

Members of the JWU said they are looking forward to attending the Beijing conference despite, added another member, uncertainties as to whether or not the union will be invited to attend.

The JWU member, who preferred anonymity, explained that only one Jordanian women's organisation will be selected to take part in the conference, and that it was not yet clear which of the two major women's organisations (the JWU or the GFJW) would be chosen.

Ms. Jamal, however, maintained that the JWU will make it to Beijing "no matter what," and that the union is organising preparatory workshops for the 1995 conference.

The JWU is holding extensive meetings to discuss amending its internal policies and is now debating with the

Ministry of Interior about certain regulations concerning the union's activities, said Ms. Jamal, adding that a press conference will be held at the end of the month to reveal the outcome of these debates.

"These differences over power monopoly do not serve women's movements in the country and are only based on personality clashes among the different organisations' members," a JWU member told the Jordan Times.

She added that Jordan will have a representative delegation at the Beijing conference and that "fighting over" who should go is "meaningless."

The member, who asked not to be named, added that these "trivial" differences should be resolved if women in Jordan hope to improve their status in the country and be part of decision making in the country's affairs.

The Beijing meeting was called on by the United Nations to address women's general status worldwide.

The Jordanian delegation to the conference will be headed by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma.

A follow-up committee has been formed to prepare a report on women's status in Jordan. The committee meets on a weekly basis and the report should be delivered to Princess Basma in July.



HONOURING THE FAMILY: Deputy Prime Minister Maan Abu Nowar Sunday presents certificates of appreciation to social work pioneers at a ceremony held to mark the International Year of the Family. The awards are from various sectors including the Ministry of Social Development, the General Union of Voluntary Societies, the Queen Alia Fund for Social Development (QAF), Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF), community development councils, the General Federation of Jordanian Women, Haya Art Centre, the Soldiers Welfare Society, the Family Welfare Society, Jordan Radio and Television Corporation, in addition to two families who are supported by handicapped persons in their family and four teacher parent councils. The ceremony was attended by senior government officials and several members of Parliament (Petra photo)

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WHAT'S GOING ON

DRAMA

★ Shakespeare's play "The Taming of the Shrew" at Al Hassan Ben Talal Auditorium, University of Jordan at 7:30 p.m.

THE FIRST QUARTET FESTIVAL

★ "The Jon Metzger Jazz Quartet" at Philadelphia ballroom, Philadelphia Hotel at 8:00 p.m.

FILMS

★ Film entitled "Women's Perfume" at the

Phoenix Gallery for Art and Culture at 5:00 p.m.

★ Film in French entitled "Comp De Torchon" at the French Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Book exhibition at the International Exhibition Centre, University Road.

MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

★ A one-hour show of a videotaped variety of classical music at the student multi-purpose building at the University of Jordan (12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.)

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975

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Loud, but how clear?

AFTER MORE than one year of stalling and procrastination, the West showed a serious determination yesterday to handle the strife in former Yugoslavia when it sent North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) warplanes to bomb Bosnian Serb positions around the besieged Muslim enclave of Gorazde.

At this point, it does not really matter how damaging the attacks were and whether they were of a nature that physically prevented the arrogant and defiant Bosnian Serbs from continuing their assault on Gorazde. It is enough for the moment that the United States and its European allies in NATO have sent their strongest signal yet to the Bosnian Serbs that force would be used to dissuade them from pursuing their expansionist designs and "ethnic cleansing."

Hopefully the Bosnian Serbs will get the message and reverse their war machines from advancing not only towards Gorazde but from all other Muslim regions subject to their merciless siege and bombardment. Perhaps more aerial action would be needed to convince them that NATO means business just as it did when it served them with an ultimatum two months ago to end the siege of Sarajevo. But we are not crying for Serb blood or anyone else's blood either.

However, the show of military strength to stop Serb assaults on defenceless Muslim villages is not enough if there is to be a just and durable solution to the conflict in former Yugoslavia. It needs a physical reversal through political means of fait accompli on the ground, where the Serbs have moved to occupy key regions that are rightfully Muslims'. That political process has to be coupled with military force wherever needed since the Bosnian Serbs have shown little inclination towards accepting a just and fair territorial compromise.

With the landmark confederation agreement between the Bosnian Muslims and Croats, there are signs of a shifting political mood in world capitals, including Washington, Paris and London, that a political solution to the strife in former Yugoslavia could be found if the Bosnian Serbs and their allies in the rump republic of Serbia and Montenegro as well as those in Moscow would only listen to reason or could be made to listen to reason as the situation clearly warrants.

In the meantime, it is clear that the Bosnian Muslims need help to defend themselves but are deprived of the means to do so in the face of the blanket arms embargo imposed on former Yugoslavia while their foes are getting a steady supply of weapons to continue their bloodbath. Indeed, it is an old story for the rest of the world, but for the Bosnian Muslims it is a real life (or death) situation, given the consistent aggressive pattern that the Bosnian Serbs have been following. It is high time the world powers in the United Nations Security Council reconsidered their refusal to lift the arms embargo so that the Bosnian Muslims could defend themselves.

If that is not possible, for whatever reason or justification, then the world powers should adopt more forceful action to stop the Bosnian Serbs on their aggressive track and send a message clear and loud that the international community will no longer put up with their arrogance, and they will have to face further punitive action if they do not come around to accepting justice and fairness.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

BY IMPOSING drastic measures and curfews on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Israel is detaining two million Arabs and depriving them of the basic rights, said Al Dustour Arabic daily Sunday. The Israelis justify this move by claiming that they want to ensure security following the spate of attacks on Israeli targets but their move is backfiring because more repression is triggering more violence on a wider scale, said the paper. The Israeli authorities have imposed numerous curfews on the occupied territories before, and the result was an upsurge of resistance against the occupation, added the paper. By resorting to mass punishment, Israel is trying to avoid facing the realities on the ground and is trying to escape any decision at the negotiating table that would end the occupation of Arab land, said the daily. Israel is required to implement U.N. Security Council resolutions and the Palestinian-Israeli Oslo deal instead of escalating its atrocities against the Palestinian population, said the paper.

AL RA'I columnist Tareq Masarweh said Jordan should be able to say 'no' to Washington and refuse its continued threat to the national economy which is manifested by the siege on Aqaba. The siege on Aqaba is a form of pressure on the Kingdom to force it to accept the U.S.-Israeli formula of a settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. We have to become accustomed to the idea of facing a situation whereby Jordan exists without Aqaba because, he said, the Americans might escalate their pressure and block the entrance to the port completely forcing us to resort to Syrian and Lebanese ports for importing and exporting our products. He said that we must be able to say no and reject all threats and adapt to a new situation, which, however bitter, would be better than complying with Washington's desires.

World response to Hebron massacre makes mockery of international law

By Lynn Welchman

SINCE THE Gulf crisis, the United States and the European states have sought to promote a Palestinian-Israeli political dynamic based on mutual recognition and the negotiation of interim arrangements that are meant to set the stage for a final resolution of the main outstanding matters of dispute. While concentrating on this objective, the diplomacy of the U.S. and Europe has to an increasing extent ignored the requirements of international humanitarian law. In the aftermath of the Hebron massacre, there is a strong argument to be made against this posture of neglect. European states and the U.S. are not only risking becoming parties to Israel's continuing violation of international humanitarian law but may also be seriously undermining their own declared objective of fostering a speedy and durable peace in the region.

In so far as it relates to territories occupied during the course of war, international humanitarian law has important consequences for dispute settlement as well as for the humanitarian protection of the population of such territories. The law protects the process of reconciliation and peacemaking from foundering on the rancour caused by serious human rights abuses, and from impositions created by policies based on conquest and annexation. Rigorous international application of the law could make it easier for the occupying power to withstand domestic political pressures from those who would prefer the spoils of conquest over the benefits of a negotiated peace. It would also strengthen the confidence of the occupied population in the peace being negotiated by its political representatives. Conversely, reluctance to insist upon respect for the law can undermine both the will to negotiate and support for the negotiators.

European Union (EU) member states and the U.S. have long dismissed the argument made by successive Israeli governments that the convention does not apply, and have ruled consistently on the illegality of such violations as settlements, deportation, collective punishment and so forth.

The role of these "third party" states is most critical when the occupying power refuses to apply the convention, as the main mechanisms of implementation internal to the convention itself cannot work. Their role is similarly crucial when the occupying power seeks acquiescence to persistent violations and the legitimisation of the consequences of these violations. Being bound absolutely to ensure respect for the convention in all circumstances, third party states are not able to accept or sanction, let alone guarantee, any negotiated arrangements which concede the rights protected by the convention.

So, what does it mean when significant third party states, unwilling to "disturb" ongoing bilateral negotiations between parties to the conflict, fall silent on such matters? In the period after the Madrid conference, the countries of the EU pulled back from moves towards taking action in defence of international law in the occupied Palestinian territories. The Declaration of Principles conceded nothing on the legal status of the settlements, occupied East Jerusalem and other matters clearly governed by international humanitarian law, but neither did it affirm or satisfy any of its main provisions. The justification for this omission appears to be that the matters already decided by international humanitarian law were too politically contentious to address at that juncture.

Given the balance of power, and the fact that significant third party states apparently ceased to make any real effort to require Israel to recognise and comply

with its international legal obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

To do all this, international humanitarian law places the behaviour of all parties to a conflict under international scrutiny and international jurisdiction. It relies on the High Contracting Parties to discharge their role as principal guarantors of the law.

All state parties to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 bound themselves to respect and to ensure respect for the provisions of these conventions in all circumstances (common Article 1). Under the Fourth Geneva Convention Relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, the Palestinians of the occupied territories have the status of "protected persons."

The Convention does not allow an occupying power to deprive "protected persons" of their rights under the convention. It does not allow the political representatives of such persons to concede any of those rights; nor does it tolerate the acquiescence of High Contracting Parties to the denial or concession of the rights in question (Articles 1, 3 and 47). The absolute nature of these injunctions reflects very clearly the combined interests of states in creating and maintaining peaceful relations, and in protecting humanity. It was this combination of interests that inspired the drafting and content of the conventions at the end of the World War II. By accepting the positive obligation to ensure respect for the conventions in all circumstances, not merely in conflicts to which they were a party, the body of contracting states recognised for the first time the interests they held, individually and as a community, in the universal and consistent implementation of the principles embodied in international humanitarian law.

In the case of the occupied Palestinian territories, the body of High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Conventions, including all the

obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, Israel was able to force a position where the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreed to postpone such issues until the "final status negotiations" some time down the road. Is this to be used by certain third party states not only to avoid taking action under the responsibilities with which they are themselves charged by humanitarian law (thus tolerating further "creation of facts" in the interim), but to begin a "phased withdrawal", also perhaps by omission, from legal positions they have held consistently since 1967?

Resolution 904: an ominous omission

Security Council Resolution 904, finally passed on March 18, while referring to the Fourth Geneva Convention, fails to affirm the illegality of all Israeli settlements throughout the occupied territories under that convention. This point, which establishes the consequent responsibility of successive Israeli governments for having sustained the settler presence and granted broad immunity to illegal and violent conduct by settlers, is such an important part of the context of the Hebron massacre that its omission is ominous. It is made more ominous by the reasons given by the U.S. for its abstention on the preambular paragraph in which the Security Council reaffirmed the applicability of the Fourth Geneva Convention "to the territories occupied by Israel in June 1967, including Jerusalem, and the Israeli responsibilities thereunder". U.S. Ambassador to U.N. Madeleine Albright stated in explanation that Jerusalem was one of the most sensitive issues to be addressed in the negotiations; that it was a matter for the parties to decide; and that the text's reference to Jerusalem could prejudice or prejudice the outcome of peace negotiations. Yet two years ago, in Security Council Resolution 799,

the council had reaffirmed the applicability of the convention "to all the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem". The prohibition on the annexation of territory occupied during the course of international armed conflict is a lynchpin of customary international law.

What implications could all this hold for international law? Those who are committed to the idea of international law as an impartial, objective standard before which all states are equal are confronted as always with the fact that the enforcement of it is almost entirely dependent on the political will of state actors. The massacre in Hebron was at least in part made possible by the fact that, having bound themselves to enforcing a particular, unusual body of law in all circumstances, the most powerful signatories to that law decided that more could be done by not insisting on its enforcement — and this in precisely the circumstances that its potential worth had been demonstrated time and time again.

Israel makes no commitment

The response of the Israeli government to the massacre has involved no commitment to a law-based standard for its conduct in the occupied Palestinian territories that conforms with its international obligations. It has, not for the first time, made gestures, and indeed these gestures appear somewhat wider than usual. However, they simply do not address the fundamental flaw that will give rise to future serious violations: the fact that Israel still refuses to be bound by existing applicable law, and indeed that serious violations continue as part of policy. The dozens of Palestinians killed since Feb. 25 were not killed by members of the now banned Kahane or Kahane Chai. They were killed by members of the Israeli armed

forces accustomed to and sanctioned in the use of excessive force unconstrained by the principles of necessity or proportionality as required by international law.

A constituency subject on a daily basis to this kind of abuse does not provide a stable consensus on which its leadership can rely to negotiate peace. Confidence is not built, nor support for political accommodations generated, by a climate of coercion intensified by a "hands-off-the-law" attitude of third parties supporting the peace process. These are truisms, and part of the reason why the law exists in the first place. It is obvious why the Israeli government appeals to the PLO to avoid insisting on "concessions to Palestinian public opinion" in the aftermath of the massacre. It is more serious when third party states also put pressure on the PLO without passing to address the underlying reasons for the vulnerability of the whole process, and their own law-based role in providing remedy.

The massacre in Hebron and its aftermath has thrown into sharp relief the fact that not only is allowing the law to be ignored a dangerous policy to follow, but that it is also a non sequitur in the logic of peace. It has proven once again the disruption that is caused to the prospects for peace by serious violations of applicable international law. On the other hand, European and North American states, independently bound to uphold that law and best placed to do so, appear to be proceeding on the basis that action to enforce the law and thus prevent those violations would disrupt the peace process. They have yet to substantiate this theory; the alternative is already a matter of record.

The writer works for the Centre for International Human Rights Enforcement in Ramallah. The article is reprinted from Middle East International.

Washington Watch

A preview on U.S. Senate elections for 1994

LOOMING LARGE on this year's political horizon are this November's 34 U.S. Senate races. Not since the 1980 elections have there been as many hotly contested seats. Political analysts now feel that at least 16 of the 34 Senate seats that will be contested this November will be very close — and 10 of them are currently held by Democrats.

Since the present lineup in the Senate is 56 Democrats to 44 Republicans, and since at least two of the Democrats are conservatives who normally vote with the Republicans, a net change of only four or five seats being contested this year could bring control of the Senate to the Republican Party. This, of course, could in turn restore "gridlock" to government and make a nightmare of President Bill Clinton's next two years in office.

Generally, the party of the president can expect some losses in the mid-term election. In the past 10 mid-term elections, the president's party has lost on average three seats in the Senate and 23 in the House of Representatives. And as I mentioned in a previous article, there are other factors, such as Republican redistricting plans which put the Democrats at a disadvantage, that suggest the Democrats will fare worse than usual.

The state of the economy, the ability of the president to project his national agenda and the status of the Whitewater controversy (or whatever other controversy may be raging in November) will all also have an effect in defining how well Democrats will do in the November elections.

In addition to these macro-level concerns that will help shape voter attitudes towards Republicans and Democrats in November, there is another powerful issue that has dominated U.S. politics over the past few years: "anti-incumbency." It was only a few years ago that political analysts were complaining about the "permanent campaign." It appeared then that being an incumbent gave a person clear advantage towards winning reelection. And, to be sure, for a number of elections well over 90 per cent of those who ran for reelection won.

That is no longer the case. Public anger with corruption, the remoteness of government officials and the belief that politicians are more concerned with themselves than with those who elected them, have combined to produce a deep backlash against incumbents.

One sure sign of this anti-incumbent sentiment is that at least 11 states have passed term limits laws, which limit the number of years those states' Congressmen and Senators can serve. And all indicators are that the anti-incumbent sentiment which produced 12 new members of the Senate and 121 new Congressmen in the 1992 elections is still a potent force in 1994.

This anti-incumbent pressure and the negative atmosphere it has created have led a number of members of Congress and the Senate to retire now rather than face the possibility of losing their reelection bids. This year, for example, eight Senators have announced their retirements (five Democrats and three Republicans) — and all the races to fill these open seats are considered toss-ups.

But it is important to remember that these larger national issues all play themselves out in the context of each individual election. And so, to understand what will happen in November, it is important to look at each race in its own right. Some of these elections deserve a full treatment.

I will, for example, give a detailed look at the fascinating Virginia Senate race in a future article. In that election, the incumbent, Democrat Chuck Robb, who is plagued by sex and drug scandals (none of which have been confirmed), is being challenged on the Republican side by the James Miller who was Director of the Office of Management and Budget under former President Ronald Reagan, and Irangate "mastermind" Oliver North.

In this article, I will profile a few of this November's races to give some ideas on some of the issues and the types of

campaigns we can expect to see this fall. First, there are two Senators, one Democrat and one Republican, who were expected to face close elections but who now appear to face little difficulty in winning reelection in November.

Massachusetts

After a number of scandals that severely tarnished the image of Democratic Senator Ted Kennedy, the magic that seems to insure "Kennedy" victories in Massachusetts elections seemed to be over. Just one year ago, Mr. Kennedy, who has been in the Senate for 32 years, appeared to present Republicans with an easy target. At that time his ratings had slipped to a low 41 per cent favourable and a high 40 per cent unfavourable.

But Republicans have not been able to find a big-name challenger to capitalise on the Senator's weakness, and by now it seems too late for them to take the seat even if they do manage to come up with a strong candidate. Mr. Kennedy has apparently been rehabilitated in the public eye, and his reelection now is virtually assured. His ratings are now 62 per cent favourable and only 26 per cent unfavourable and the polls show him able to beat most of his lesser-known opponents by a two to one margin.

Rhode Island

Republican Senator John Chafee has often been seen as a potential target by Democrats. Rhode Island is a largely Democratic state and Mr. Chafee, an 18 year veteran of the Senate, has had tough reelection races in the past. In 1982, he won by only 2 per cent of the vote, and in 1988 he had fought another very close race against a very well-funded opponent. That year, pro-Israel political action committees (PACs) attempted to take advantage of Mr. Chafee's apparent vulnerability and his pro-Arab voting record by raising millions for his challengers.

But Mr. Chafee won that race in 1988 by a 55 per cent-45 per cent margin, and seems to be headed for an even easier victory this year.

Maine

Political analysts didn't expect much of anything interesting to happen in Maine this year. But Democratic Senator George Mitchell's retirement announcement has thrown the state's politics into a turmoil. Mr. Mitchell was expected to easily win reelection. His decision not to seek reelection brought Maine's only two members of Congress, Republican Olympic Snowe and Democrat Tom Andrews into the race to replace him. While the race was a sure win for Democrats if Mr. Mitchell had stayed in, his departure gives Republicans a chance to win in a state where more than half of federally elected office holders are Republicans.

And since Maine's Republican Governor, John McKernan (who is Olympia Snowe's husband) is also not running for reelection this year, all the seats in the state will be contested this year and no incumbents will be involved. Already, 30 Democrats and Republicans have announced their candidacies to replace Mr. Snowe and Mr. Andrews.

What could further complicate this mess is if Mr. Mitchell is appointed by President Clinton to fill the recently announced vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court. Should this occur, Mr. Mitchell would have to resign from the Senate before his term ends in January of 1995. By law, Maine's Governor could announce a replacement for Mr. Mitchell who would serve until next January. Since there is little doubt that Mr. McKernan would appoint his wife, Representative Snowe, to the seat — she would then have the advantage of serving a few months in office before the November election, which would

allow her to gain experience and greater state-wide recognition.

California

The issue of money in politics is certain to surface in this year's Senate race. Traditionally, California races are the most expensive in the nation, sometimes costing more than \$20 million in Senate elections. The state is so large and populous, and campaigns cost so much that candidates do very little personal campaigning for election. They are forced to spend a great deal of time going to fundraising events and sitting on the phone with potential contributors.

Since campaign finance laws prohibit individuals from giving more than \$1,000 to a candidate, raising \$10,000,000 can be an extremely difficult affair. The one loophole in the campaign finance law is that there is no limit to the amount of personal funds any candidate may spend on their own behalf. As a result, the Senate races in California are attracting more and more millionaires who can more easily raise and spend the money it takes to win elections.

Republican Congressman Michael Huffington is an example of the millionaire-funded politician. In 1992, he set a record by spending \$5,000,000 of his own money to win his first Congressional election, and he may set a record in this year's Senate race as well. He is not expected to win against the Democratic incumbent Dianne Feinstein, but he has committed to spend at least \$15,000,000 of his own money to compete against her.

Although still early in the year, Mr. Huffington has already spent \$1,000,000 on television advertisements to introduce himself to voters across the state. So far, however, the results are not promising.

Pennsylvania

In many ways, Democratic Senator Harris Wofford's victory in the 1991 special election to replace Republican John Heinz (who had died in a plane crash) set the stage for a Democrat to win the White House in 1992. Mr. Wofford beat a former Bush administration cabinet member who had also served two terms as the state's governor. Mr. Wofford basically ignored his opponent on the ballot and ran against George Bush's economic policy and in favour of a national health care programme.

Mr. Wofford's campaign managers were the same team who later ran Bill Clinton's presidential campaign. At the time of the 1992 elections, Mr. Wofford was a significant national figure and was considered a certain victor when he would run for reelection 1994. Today, however, largely as a result of a very lacklustre two years in office, Mr. Wofford has only a 23 per cent approval rating and only 35 per cent of the state's voters say he deserves reelection.

As a result of Mr. Wofford's inability to make a strong positive impact on his state's voters, this is a seat the Republicans could win from the Democrats — but only if they nominate a strong challenger to face the incumbent in the fall.

Maryland

Another seat the Republicans stand a chance of winning from a sitting Democrat is in Maryland, where Democratic Senator Paul Sarbanes has done little to convince voters to reelect him for another six years. Only 34 per cent of Maryland's voters say that Mr. Sarbanes deserves reelection. Yet, because the Republicans have a long history of fielding weak challengers in Maryland, even weak Democratic incumbents in this state stand a good chance of winning reelection.

But all that may change this year. Former Tennessee Republican Senator Bill Brock, who moved to Maryland over a decade ago (when he served in President Reagan's cabinet), has announced his candidacy for the 1994 election against Mr. Sarbanes. Suddenly, a race that was seen as one of the most boring in the country is beginning to attract interest. If Mr. Brock can overcome some slight voter resentment over the fact that he is not a native Marylander, he may be Brock will be the first person to win election to the Senate from two different states.

Another interesting side light to this campaign will be whether or not Vice President Al Gore comes to Maryland to campaign for Mr. Sarbanes. It will be remembered that when Mr. Brock first won his Tennessee Senate seat in 1970, he defeated Al Gore, Sr. (the vice president's father) in that year's race.

The writer is president of the Washington-based Arab American Institute.

Austrian president arrives today

(Continued from page 1)

January. Dr. Kistler visited Jordan in early September 1993, but the two sides could not hold extensive discussions in view of the Kingdom's preoccupations in the wake of the sudden revelations of the secret autonomy accord reached between Israel and the Palestine Liberation

Organisation (P.L.O.).

It was then suggested that the visit be a working visit and that the Austrian president make a state visit at a later date.

"This will be a full-fledged state visit," said Ambassador Stigebauer, noting that President Kistler was scheduled to visit Petra, the Dead Sea, Umm Qais and the Jordan Valley.

Yemeni official arrives in Amman

(Continued from page 1)

another failure in the media efforts," one source said.

Bomb explosion

A bomb exploded Sunday in a southern Yemeni highschool, killing two students. Security sources in Aden said a third student and the deputy head-

master were wounded in the explosion at the school in Shabwa, some 350 kilometres northeast of Aden.

The sources had no other details of the blast, the latest in a series of attacks that have rocked the country since political differences emerged between President Saleh and Vice-President Beidh last summer.

Occupied lands closed until self-rule

(Continued from page 1)

"When we are talking about making peace, their situation will never have been worse than it is today," Ms. Aloni said. "We cannot ignore their needs."

Agriculture and construction firms raised an immediate outcry after the closure was announced that their businesses were in jeopardy.

Social and Welfare Minister Ora Namir said the foreign workers, mainly from the former Yugoslavia and Thailand, will be given visas for six months. In the three to five weeks it will take for them to be absorbed into jobs here, the ministry will employ soldiers and high school students to fill in the gap, she said.

Aside from the proposed 18,000 labourers, there are already 8,000 foreign labourers in Israel, Mr. Namir's spokesman Hanan Rubin said. The construction industry hosts 6,000 workers, mostly from Eastern Europe, and 2,000 Thai work in the agricultural sector.

Israeli and Palestinian teams resumed talks on implementing the autonomy in Cairo this week. Both sides have said that the agreement to introduce the autonomy in the Gaza Strip and the occupied West Bank of Jericho could be implemented in weeks — but

each side has also accused the other of stalling.

Mr. Shetreet, close to prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, said the closure would be long-term, saying it could mean weeks or years, depending on how the autonomy worked.

Ministers from the left-wing Meretz party disputed Mr. Shetreet's claim, insisting that no decision on a time-frame for the closure would be taken until next Sunday. They said they would try to lift the closure as soon as possible.

"The street has influence on the negotiating table," Environment Minister Yossi Sarid said after the cabinet meeting. "If the stress and the earnings are tough, the street will put pressure on the table — and the table could break."

Southern district commander Major General Matan Vilni said the closure was likely to increase violence in Gaza. "It will make things very difficult," he told Israel Radio. "They are very dependent on Israel, and there is no doubt the number of incidents in the strip are liable to rise."

Gen. Vilni ordered troops back into refugee camps to deal with the anticipated violence, the respected Haaretz daily newspaper reported Sunday. Forces had pulled out of some camps last week as part of the Israeli pullback before the autonomy begins.

Rwandan violence subsides

(Continued from page 1)

Kigali, told Sky TV in London. "But there are bands of youths going around the suburbs, stealing, using grenades, killing people."

Reports surfaced Sunday of a massacre at a mission of the Roman Catholic Franciscan order, but details were sketchy.

"There was a massacre of some sort that happened at this Franciscan mission on Friday," said John Magrath, a spokesman for the Oxfam humanitarian organisation in Oxford, England. "We don't even know how many people were killed."

Many of the 255 Americans in Rwanda were evacuated safely by car convoy to Burundi on Saturday, a U.S. embassy source said. At least 140 of them were being flown to Nairobi, Kenya, in two aircraft Sunday.

Most Americans known to have been in Rwanda have left and "as far as we know, there are no Americans who are unsafe," U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said on NBC Television.

About 10 family members of the late president were aboard the first plane to leave Kigali on Saturday night. Radio France Internationale said Sunday. It was not known where they were Sunday.

More than 150 of the 600 French nationals in Rwanda had left by Sunday morning, the French defence ministry said in Paris. The first of them were to arrive in Paris by Sunday night.

About 330 U.S. Marines who had been stationed off the Somalia coast arrived in neighbouring Burundi to help with the evacuation. U.S. officials in Germany said.

Radio Tanzania on Sunday quoted an official of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees as saying that 570 Burundians have fled violence in the north of their country. The radio also quoted a student in Burumbura, the capital of Burundi, as tense.

Canadian missionary Vernon Demille said that in Kigali "people were being pulled out of our church and slaughtered out in front of the church."

"We're seeing people running for their lives. Houses being grenaded, people being shot — some of them are being

butchered by machetes," he told CBC Radio on Saturday after escaping to Bujumbura.

The ruling Hutus and the minority Tutsis have fought for decades in Rwanda and Burundi. Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana and Burundi President Cyprien Ntaryamira were returning from a peace conference in Tanzania aimed at ending the ethnic strife when their plane crashed.

France sent the first of 400 paratroops into Kigali airport on Saturday to prepare for the evacuation.

The right to healthy environment

By Waleed Sadi

THERE IS a growing trend in the U.S. to view cigarettes as some kind of drug that should be controlled as all other narcotics. Nicotine has been discovered to be as addictive as other forms of narcotics, therefore necessitating legislations to regulate the manufacture, sale and use of all tobacco products. Now there are voices calling for total ban on cigarette advertising and possibly banning cigarettes altogether in view of their threat to life and the right to life of people, especially people who are not smokers.

The U.S. government is now poised to ban cigarettes smoking in all public places in a bid to avoid the dangers of secondary smoking to which non smokers are subjected against their will. The upsurge in the campaign against tobacco has been prompted by new evidence that cigarette smoking is the leading cause of death and that new smoke related diseases are being discovered everywhere.

In this sense, we in Jordan are lagging way behind in fighting cigarette smoking and in the process leaving our people ever more exposed to extreme dangers to their health. In spite of many efforts by the Ministry of Health to curb smoking in public places, there are still many governmental departments violating the regulations of the health authorities on cigarettes. No wonder

cancer related diseases are increasing in Jordan especially when other causes of cancer in the country go on unchecked.

On the top of the list is, of course, pollution from car emissions. At a time when other countries have made great strides in replacing leaded gasoline with unleaded one, there is hardly a whisper in our country about the urgency of this step. Why, for example, the Ministry of Health has yet to address this aspect of the problem affecting our environment is something that is indeed disturbing. Are the lives of our people that much less important than the lives

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of Europeans and Americans whose governments have shifted to unleaded fuel many years ago. When shall we begin to take the lives of Jordanians more seriously? Is it not enough that our agricultural products are contaminated with insecticides and pesticides and our air poisoned by the fumes of our trucks, buses and industries.

Granted, no country has been able to lick the problem of environment in toto, but there are many areas which can be easily addressed here and now, beginning with cigarette smoking and the leaded gasoline that our vehicles burn day in and day out.

The introduction of unleaded fuel could indeed be a costly venture but we can all

be sure that the non use of cleaner gasoline could be doubly more expensive in the long run. Perhaps the concerned authorities could begin to measure the dangers to health emanating from lead that in mothers' milk or otherwise.

The process that the Minister of Health Abdul Rahim Malhas has set in motion when he disclosed that some of our foods and medicines are contaminated or unfit for human consumption can be completed by reaching out to other dangers that are still looming in the horizon. Cigarettes and leaded fuel should be next on the agenda of the Minister. Is it too much to ask him to deal with such issues affecting the right to life of Jordanians? I am sure that once the people know the extent of the problem they would exert further efforts to redress it. There is little doubt that Jordanians would begin to import cars using unleaded fuel once it is made available.

By way of inducement for buying the proper cars, the government should make available to the public this less harmful gasoline as soon as possible in a bid to encourage the import of environment friendly engines. The process of phasing out leaded gas would naturally take some years but at least we would have begun the process of cleaning our skies from lead deposits that are very harmful to life. After all, the right to life comes ahead of all other human rights.

By Ayesha Khan

ISLAMABAD — Iran has reduced its population growth rate within only five years of ending its opposition to family planning as anti-Islamic and launching a national campaign.

The building of a national consensus to promote the new policy shows that Islamic countries that have shied away from family planning and population issues, can create an Islam-based approach to the subject if they want to do so.

Population growth in Iran was reduced from 3.4 per cent a year in 1986 to 2.7 per cent in 1992. In the next 20 years, Tehran optimistically plans to raise the number of married women using modern contraception to 44 per cent.

A team of Iranian researchers led by Homa Hoodfar of Canada's Concordia University has documented the tactics adopted by Iranian President Rafsanjani's government when it realised that economic and urban pressures were making it difficult to fulfil its promise of providing basic amenities to the country's 50 million people.

They pinpoint the Friday mosque sermons as playing a key role in increasing public understanding of why family planning was favoured in place of the pro-natalist stance adopted by the government in the first years of the Islamic revolution.

Religious leaders explained in simple language that too many people were a domestic burden, a problem for developing nations and a strain on global resources.

Western countries with low population growth rates were cited as having the capacity to provide good education and health care and dominating the rest of the world.

Islam permitted contraception, it was argued, in order to end dependency on the West and because these were times of economic hardship.

In addition, focus was placed on health-on child-spacing, the welfare of the mother and family, prevention of transmission of genetic diseases, and curing infertility. The arguments were repeated in the media, and most critically, in information and discussion sessions all over the country.

The campaign focussed on poor women and provision of modern contraceptives such as the IUD (intra-uterine device, or coil), the oral Pill, injectables, and sterilisation. The traditional method of withdrawal has been downplayed as less effective.

Focussing on women produced an unexpected side-effect: It enabled women's activists to open up public debate over the interpretation of Islam in providing justice for both men and women, and to demand that the underlying reasons for high fertility should be addressed.

For example, they pointed out that despite women's gains in education since the revolution which overthrew the Shah, women had suffered some serious setbacks: Legalisation of polygyny, and a fashion for men to take more than one wife as proof of prosperity, unconditional right of divorce for men, and constitutional declaration of the legal age of maturity — and therefore of marriage — at nine years for girls among others.

By Angus Macswan
Reuter

SOWETO. South Africa — The face of Nelson Mandela beams down from posters tied to almost every lamp post in Soweto, promising "jobs, jobs, jobs."

The people in this vast black township, a cradle of South Africa's struggle against apartheid, need jobs badly.

They need a lot of other things too.

The township has been spared current political violence sweeping neighbouring Natal province but criminals, muggers and gangsters keep the hospital working overtime.

The rows of squat brick houses still aren't enough to shelter two million people. The sewage system frequently spills over onto the pot-holed roads.

"It's difficult to live in these conditions. We are expecting a change; it's going to change," said Comdeini, an unemployed carpenter lounging in the yard of the main community centre.

Soweto, the name is an acronym for south west township, lies only about 15 minutes drive along a six-lane highway from the manicured white suburbs of Johannesburg.

You can tell you are getting close because verges are overgrown with weeds and litter blows everywhere.

At a huge police compound full of recovered vehicles, people search for their stolen cars.

"Kill the police, advance the struggle," says one streak

Grim Soweto awaits better times

of graffiti of undetermined vintage.

The police themselves cruise around in bright yellow battlewagons.

It was in Soweto where an uprising against South Africa's white rulers erupted in 1976. Mr. Mandela came home to Soweto after his release from 27 years of prison in February 1990.

He is almost certain to become the country's first black president after unprecedented all-race elections in three weeks time.

Improving the lot of poor blacks is the main campaign platform of his African National Congress (ANC).

Soweto families struggle to get by on about 200 rand (\$35) a week, said Nom-buyiso Mayoung, the community centre supervisor.

"Ninety nine per cent of the houses have electricity now but many can't afford to use it," she said. "Whole families are unemployed."

"When you get jobs, crime will stop," Comdeini

said. It's a dangerous place. At night gunshots crack out. Stabbings are frequent.

"Sometimes it's politics, sometimes it's because someone takes your girlfriend," said Sakhele, a 19-year-old student. "I want a gun but I can't get one. You must defend Yourself."

There's not much entertainment, just two cinemas, which the men said they couldn't afford. Weekend "kitchen parties" are popular. Someone lays on food, beer and music in their home and people pay about 10 rand (\$2) to get in.

Not everybody in Soweto is poor. One section of town is nicknamed "Beverly Hills" because a black middle class live there in relatively smart homes.

At a small factory run by the self help Association of Paraplegics, manager Friday Mandla Mavuso expressed concern that Sowetans might be disappointed if things don't change overnight.

Mr. Mavuso has been in a wheelchair since police shot and crippled him in 1974. The factory employs about 150 other paraplegics, nearly all of them also victims of police gunfire.

"I don't think the new government will be able to meet all its promises. We have to be realistic. There was a lot of damage done," he said.

"I pity the ANC. Mandela must be a brave person to want to be president of so damaged a country."

way, or for back-dated housework wages on divorce. Implementation is proving difficult, but activists believe that the very existence of legislation can help shape public sentiment.

Mr. Hoodfar believes more could be done. As long as men take more than one wife and abandon existing spouses, children become a means of holding on to husbands. The insecurity runs so deep that middle-class women who had their children before the revolution and then used contraception are today having "second sets" of children.

Says Mr. Hoodfar: "The government will not be more successful with the population programme if they don't change the marriage laws." Nevertheless, women have used the religious leadership's own rhetoric to show that true Islam is not being practised if women suffer discrimination, and the Ayatollahs in turn have shown they can be flexible if pressure is strong enough.

"Islam is flexible, like a rope," says Mr. Hoodfar. "It wouldn't have lasted 1,400 years without that capacity."

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Jail terms rock Israeli banking establishment

TEL AVIV (R) — An Israeli court shocked the banking establishment Sunday, ordering former top officials to jail for a 1983 shares scandal that cost the government \$9 billion.

Judge Miriam Naor imposed sentences of up to eight months on nine former top executives of four of Israel's biggest banks. They were found guilty in February of fraud in Israel's biggest financial scandal.

She gave the defendants 45 days to appeal against the sentences which also included fines of 340,000 shekels for the banks and up to 200,000

shekels for individuals. The defendants, who declined comment, included former top officials from Bank Hapoalim, Bank Leumi, Israel Discount Bank and United Mizrahi Bank.

"How will the legal establishment look in the eyes of 'petty embezzlers' who were tried in the past and will be tried to the future and sent to prison if someone who acts the way the defendants act will not be made to pay?" the judge wrote.

"That is what is required by the principle of equality under the law," she continued.

Each offence carried a maximum jail term of five years in jail, and an Israeli consumer group assailed the sentences as too soft, but that some of the former bankers received jail terms defied most forecasts.

"A big page has been written in the history of the rule of law," said Moshe Negbi, Israel radio's longtime legal analyst.

The bankers, eager to profit on a flood of money they saw depositors enjoying in the early 1980s, were accused of promoting their own banks' shares and propping the prices up artificially.

The inflated stock prices

eventually collapsed when rumours that the Israeli shekel would be devalued led thousands of investors to sell shares and buy U.S. dollars.

Thousands of small Israeli investors were burned. The government, bowing to public pressure, ultimately bailed them out, paying more than \$9 billion for bank assets worth far less and taking control of the banks.

The government is only now selling its shares in the four banks, all of which showed an increase in profits in 1993.

Government officials still warn against another possible

stock crash as small investors play the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, artificially pushing up the Mismatim blue-chip index.

Israeli investigators have detained at least 10 people in a widening share manipulation scandal the last two months.

The sentencing Sunday brought to a climax legal proceedings lasting more than two years.

An official inquiry implicated the bankers in 1985, but former attorney-general Yosef Harish refused to bring charges until the Supreme Court forced him to do so. He argued the bank heads had paid by resigning their posts.

Mordechai Einhorn of Leumi and Rafael Recanat of Discount Bank were given eight-month sentences and fined 200,000 shekels apiece. Eli Cohen of Discount bank was given a six-month sentence and fined 170,000 shekels.

Giora Gazit of Hapoalim was sentenced to three months of public service and fined 170,000 shekels. Aharon Meir of Mizrahi was fined 200,000 shekels. Udi Recanat of Discount was fined 135,000 shekels.

Three other officials received lesser sentences while Ernst Japhet, former Leumi chairman, still faces trial.

Japan financial markets face political vacuum

TOKYO (R) — Japan's political vacuum after the resignation of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa could prompt yen selling and leave the Tokyo stock market floundering for direction, financial analysts said Sunday.

Traders are confused by an emerging power struggle within the ruling coalition, which is still seeking a successor for Mr. Hosokawa, who stepped down Friday over a loans scandal but remains caretaker prime minister.

"An administrative vacuum in one country has a fairly big impact on the currency," said Mizuhiko Hashimoto, assistant manager at Credit Commercial de France in Tokyo. "Fund managers would not like to hold yen assets."

Japan's lack of leadership means a further delay in reopening stalled trade talks with Washington.

This usually inspires yen buying on expectations that the United States will seek a higher yen against the dollar to squeeze Japan into taking action to cut its huge global surplus.

But this time dealers are taking the negative impact of Mr. Hosokawa's resignation on the yen's image more seriously.

Talks at the weekend to agree a successor to Mr. Hosokawa proved fruitless. His shock resignation has sparked a power struggle within the fractious government alliance and polarised it into two opposing camps.

Talks among senior negotiators from the eight coalition partners were expected to resume at 11:00 a.m. (0200 GMT) on Monday although not all parties were in agreement over a meeting of party chiefs.

The dollar rose to just below 106 yen in Tokyo on Friday when dealers heard reports that Mr. Hosokawa was going to resign.

It slipped to end Tokyo trade at 104.95 yen after Mr. Hosokawa officially announced that he would quit to take responsibility for a row over controversial personal loans which has paralysed parliamentary business for weeks.

Later the dollar posted a moderate gain in nervous New York trade. It closed at 105.25 yen after a 105.00-yen open.

Dealers said the U.S. currency will not rise above 106.107 yen this week, a level that is likely to prompt Japanese exporters' dollar sales for hedging purposes.

The dollar's downside also appears solid at around 103 yen, where the Bank of Japan has feverishly intervened to stem the yen's rise. A high yen cuts exporters' profits and could dampen hopes for an overall economic recovery from recession.

Currency dealers worry that the yen's fall could depress the Tokyo stock market, invite foreign investors to withdraw from holding yen assets, and induce further yen selling.

Tokyo stocks are seen stuck in a range this week, with investors nervously watching further developments on the Japanese political situation, brokers and analysts said.

But markets elsewhere are expected to be volatile. Dealers in other Asian markets said overseas investors may shift to their bourses, if they thought the situation in Tokyo was not stable.

On Friday in Tokyo the benchmark Nikkei average closed up 44 points at 19,934 after plunging to 19,520 from around 19,900 on the resignation news.

"Overseas investors have so far held back from selling off Tokyo stocks," Credit Commercial's Hashimoto said. "But if programme selling at 18,000 on the Nikkei ignites massive sell orders, the picture could change."

Boeing raises curtain on huge twin-engine jet

EVERETT, Washington (R) — With a Hollywood-style fanfare of lights and music, Boeing Co. raised the curtain Sunday on its huge new twin-engine 777 airplane, the company's most ambitious project in a quarter of a century.

The wide-body plane, which will be able to carry more than 400 people, is the centerpiece of an effort to transform Boeing's corporate culture and is seen by analysts as the company's biggest risk since it launched its 747 Jumbo Jet in the late 1960s.

Boeing unveiled the plane in the midst of a worldwide airline industry downturn that has forced the world's biggest commercial airplane manufacturer to lay off thousands of employees, including 17,000 last year alone.

But Boeing executives said they see the 777 as the beginning of a "family of airplanes" that will meet airline needs for the next 30-50 years and maintain the company's 65 per cent market share against rivals Airbus Industrie and McDonnell Douglas.

"We expect this airplane will be in production through a couple of economic cycles," Boeing President Phil Condit said at a news conference. "Our job is to make sure we

have it ready so when we come out of this economic cycle we have an airplane ready for the customers to be in."

He said the plane was on schedule to take its initial flight sometime in the first week of June. The first commercial model is to be delivered to United Airlines in May 1995.

Boeing so far has received 147 orders for the plane, which sells for between \$116 million

and \$140 million. Analysts have said Boeing needs to sell about 300 of the planes to break even on the initial production cost, which they have estimated at \$4 billion, some of which is being shared by three Japanese heavy manufacturers.

Boeing officials plan to deliver a longer-range version of the plane in 1996, and executives said development of a

third "stretch" version of the 777 could begin within a year.

The 777, which will be the world's largest twin-engine jet, is Boeing's first all-new model in more than a decade and represents other firsts as well.

It is Boeing's first "fly-by-wire" jet, in which moving parts are controlled electronically with no cable connections, and its first "paperless" plane, designed entirely on a computer.

The plane fills a niche between Boeing's twin-engine 767 and the four-engine 747 and competes against the new Airbus A330 and A340 as well as McDonnell-Douglas' MD-11.

Boeing executives have used the design of the jet to institute new Japanese-style "design-build" teams, aimed at increasing efficiency and meeting airline requests more quickly.



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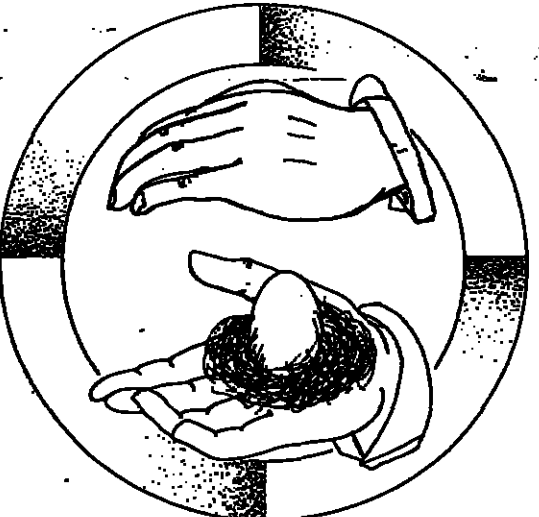
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HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY APRIL 11, 1994

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Make sure that your artistic qualities are being fully utilized as you coordinate your efforts with others in a project that is important to your emotional and financial well being. Use care in motion.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Think carefully about advancing in your line of endeavor and strengthen your fortifications. Take no risks with your reputation or you could lose it.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Your ideas where a new interest is concerned can be good and bad, so weed out the bad ones for best results. Be wise and you will be successful.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be sure to keep promises you have made to associates. Use more tact with the one you love and avoid trouble which could occur if not careful.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Take steps to obtain important data that can be helpful in career matters. Gain the cooperation of associates you work with.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Begin the week properly by doing your work more painstakingly and get better results. Sideslip a troublemaker who could make your life miserable.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Engage in favorite recreations during spare time and relieve tensions. Show that you are truly devoted to loved one by some special kindness.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Showing more affection and kindness towards family members is wise now. Don't lose your temper with anyone or you could regret it at another time.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Be more precise in your statements and have more accord with associates. Establish more harmony with family members for a peaceful existence.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Make sure your regular routines are working in fine order. Be alert to opportunities coming your way now from someone in a high position.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You can gain personal aims if you understand the facts connected with them. Enjoy the company of congenial friends and family tonight.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Make definite plans to gain your personal aims. Make a point to encourage those who need a boost at this time and they will be successful.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Gaining personal wishes at this time may take longer than you anticipated. Take time to improve your health and appearance for those you meet.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME


Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RISUV

BREYD

ENBAUT

TURAIN



ANOTHER NAME FOR AN ALTAR

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: A O O O O O O O O

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLOOD OWING HOMING STUDIO
Answer: Abe Lincoln's success was fueled by this — MIDNIGHT OIL

THE Daily Crossword

by Roger Jurgovan

ACROSS

1 Wimbledon winner

5 Vacation place

9 Watchband

14 Eschew

15 Beehive State

16 Cullerose

17 Variety of cabbage

18 Shredded

19 Queen's ship

20 Strop

22 Tread partner

23 Amphora

24 Jokes or better

26 Edit

29 Exude

30 Privileged group

31 Absolve

38 Think

39 Vitrolic

40 Copy of a kind

41 Area of interest

42 Deserve

43 With affection

44 Singing voice

48 Urge

49 Pay for

50 Awkward

55 — nous

56 Land of tennis

57 Brute

58 Mushroom

59 Metal

60 Scheme

61 Pico

62 Holiday times

63 Dispatched

DOWN

1 Quizzes

2 Title of a former monarch

3 Dance in Honolulu

4 Weasels

5 Most foxy

6 Makes amends

7 Horse

8 Behavioral

9 Conceal

0 Prepare for a bout

1 Fear

12 Mr. Ed?

13 Squints

14 Alacrity

25 Conifer

26 Ridge of coral

27 A Fitzgerald

28 Platter

29 Banish

31 Sum up

32 Pluvial water

33 Served

34 Cash drawer

35 Whirlpool

37 Substrate

40 In an agitated manner

41 Nourishment

43 French cone

44 Hoist back

45 "To be, —"

46 Rock: pret.

47 More uncommon

48 Carpentry tool

51 Tel —

52 Sly glance



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

HAIR TARTARIC AND
THE QUADRIC AREA
BYLANDTARMAH
AMOR ESTOP ARAN
NOTE
FRASING SCARDED
ESTHER BOBSES
HALLAVIA AIE
MOLLIERE LATTERS
BUTS
RIEL SEATO AGA
GEMERAMONDORA
ESE FINGERED ERE
ITE DESERTY ERE

Peanuts

WHEN YOUR DOG WAS SICK, YOU WERE WORRIED ABOUT HIM, WEREN'T YOU?

IF I GOT SICK, WOULD YOU WORRY THAT MUCH ABOUT ME?

THAT MUCH, OR MORE?

I CAN'T HEAR YOU... THE TV IS TOO LOUD.

STUPID DOG!

OF COURSE

Mutt'n'Jeff

MUTT SAYS AFTER ALL THESE YEARS IN THIS COMIC STRIP THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO STILL DON'T KNOW WHICH OF US IS WHICH?

HE SAYS SOME PEOPLE CALL HIM JEFF AND THEY CALL ME MUTT. CAN YOU IMAGINE?

JEFF: THAT'S ME

HELLO, JEFF!

JULIUS, MY TWIN BROTHER!

GET OUT OF THIS PICTURE! DO YOU WANT PEOPLE TO BECOME MORE CONFUSED? ANYWAYS, EVEN THOUGH YOU ARE MY TWIN BROTHER YOU WASN'T BORN UNTIL YEARS LATER AFTER ME!

THE LITTLE GUY WITH THE WHISKERS IS JEFF

I AM JEFF

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Serbs close in on Gorazde

ARAJEVO (R) — Hundreds of villagers fled Bosnian Serb forces pushing deeper into the Muslim enclave of Gorazde today in defiance of a United Nations warning to pull back from the town.

The main U.N. aid agency reported refugees whose homes were burning in southern parts of the besieged eastern enclave poured into a Gorazde township which is hit by Serb shells Sunday morning.

Peter Kessler of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) said 800 men, children and old people have demonstrated outside the agency's Gorazde office for protection and aid.

"The overall situation is that people are in a frenzy there are rumours and reports of people being killed in overrun villages. Refugees are bringing stories of decapitation."

There was no independent confirmation of atrocities but continued attacks underlined claims by U.N. peacekeepers that Serbs would try to capture the enclave, J.N. "safe haven" sheltering 4,000 Muslim civilians.

At least 99 Muslims have been killed and more than 400

have been wounded in the latest fighting in the enclave, one of only three left to Muslims who were a majority in eastern Bosnia before the civil war began two years ago.

The Bosnian Serb Army (BSA), which turned on Gorazde at the end of March, appears to have captured most of the enclave south of the Drina River which bisects the territory.

A BSA statement said Muslim positions overwhelmed by Serb forces Saturday included Zupcici, which is five kilometres from Gorazde on the south bank of the Drina.

Drina bridges at nearby Kolovare, Baci and Dzindici were destroyed in fighting, forcing refugees to cross the river in boats, according to the UNHCR and the BSA.

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali ordered U.N. peacekeepers Saturday to use all means to force the Serbs to pull back from Gorazde and not rule out air strikes.

NATO commanders have been reluctant to use air power although a similar threat in February broke the Serb siege of Sarajevo.

Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Rose, the commander of the U.N. Protection Force

(UNPROFOR) in Bosnia, said Sunday that air strikes remained an option to drive the Serbs from Gorazde.

When asked by a Renter reporter in the Croatian port of Split if the latest Serb offensive could bring about NATO air strikes, Gen. Rose said: "Well, it may come to that."

UNPROFOR has only a handful of military observers in the Gorazde pocket and no clear idea of what is going on.

Its claims that the Serbs have taken only 7.5 per cent of the territory in the pocket and are unlikely to capture it look increasingly threadbare.

Workers in Gorazde for the medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) warned there was a grave danger that it would be overrun and criticised U.N. inaction.

The Serbs Friday exploited a 24-hour ceasefire to capture a 1,000 metre high hilltop artillery platform overlooking Gorazde's town centre. Journalists returning from the area said their territorial gains were considerable in the east and west of the pocket as well as the south.

UNPROFOR rejected Muslim claims that the Serbs fired chemical shells Saturday and

said the weapons were 120mm smoke mortars that lay down a smoke screen and are not banned by the Geneva conventions.

The increased fighting in Gorazde has coincided with efforts by Gen. Rose and U.S. diplomatic envoys to broker an overall ceasefire in Bosnia between Muslims and Serbs.

BSA commanders said at talks Saturday they were ready for a permanent truce but Muslim negotiators were prepared for only a 14-day cessation. The Bosnian government fears a permanent ceasefire would cement Serb war gains and leave their foes with 70 per cent of the former Yugoslav republic.

Gen. Rose suspended negotiations for 48 hours while efforts to reach a compromise were made.

Gen. Rose Sunday abandoned plans to visit NATO Headquarters in Brussels because of the continued Serb attacks on Gorazde, a U.N. spokesman said.

Gen. Rose was in Split en route for Belgium when reports of the deteriorating situation in Gorazde prompted him to return to Sarajevo, Commander Eric Chaperon told reporters.



British General Sir Michael Rose (centre), UNPROFOR commander for Bosnia, checks the time after meeting with Bosnian Serb commander General Ratko Mladic. Gen. Rose gave the Serbs 48 hours to reconsider their standpoint after the talks broke up without a ceasefire agreement (AFP photo)

Mandela leads mourning for Hani

JOHANNESBURG (R) — ANC leader Nelson Mandela Sunday led thousands of people mourning the assassination of black Communist Party leader Chris Hani, whose killing a year ago plunged South Africa into one of its worst political crises.

The murder of the enigmatic black leader, a former commander of the ANC's guerrilla wing, by white immigrant Janusz Walusz, sparked a wave of black outrage defused only by the swift arrest of his killers.

Mr. Mandela and other political leaders attended a requiem mass at the closely guarded St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Church in Johannesburg's mainly white suburb of Boksburg where Mr. Hani lived until his murder.

An Irish priest described Mr. Hani as a magnetic leader and called his assassination "one of the darkest days faced by the liberation movement and the nation as a whole."

"His whole presence radiated leadership... his death was a tragedy for the whole of South Africa," the missionary priest said.

Mr. Mandela, dressed in a charcoal suit, praised the role of the church in the anti-apartheid struggle, describing it as "one of the most powerful forces for change... all faiths, Christians, Hindus, Muslims, Jews, have made a solid contribution to the struggle for democracy in this country."

Speaking to several hundred people outside the church, Mr. Mandela said: "We want a better life for all our people without exception. Africans, coloureds and whites alike."

The veteran ANC leader, who has failed to draw his Inkatha Freedom Party rivals into the country's first all-race elections from April 26-28, was later addressing a Hani Day rally in Orlando Stadium in Soweto, South Africa's biggest black township.

Witnesses said police and heavily armed troops were out in force in Boksburg. There were at least three roadblocks between the Elspark Cemetery, where Mr. Hani was buried, and a nearby residential area.

The army said it barred about 50 armed right-wingers from laying wreaths at the cemetery where mourners, including Mr. Hani's widow and daughters, earlier marked the anniversary.

South African Defence Force spokesman Commander Wayne Hermanson said the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) members were stopped at a roadblock about five kilometres from the guarded cemetery where Mr. Hani's grave had been separated from others by a coil of razor wire.

Commandant Hermanson said the AWB members said they wanted to lay wreaths at the graves of whites but were stopped.

"It's not the type of thing you do with a weapon," Commandant Hermanson said.

At least four people were killed in overnight political unrest at the other end of the country in volatile Natal, the defence force said Sunday.

The killings in KwaZulu and

surrounding Natal province bring to 144 the death toll since a state of emergency was declared in the region on March 31.

At least 10,000 people have been killed in a decade-long turf war between supporters of the ANC and the rejectionist Inkatha.

Meanwhile, a defiant Mangosuthu Buthelezi said Saturday there could be fresh violence in South Africa's Zulu heartland of Natal as mourning supporters of the rival African National Congress buried their dead.

"I have never seen the level of anger as high as the current level it has reached," the Zulu chief told reporters the day after a peace summit of key political leaders broke up without agreement.

The Inkatha Freedom Party leader said the mood was unlikely to ease before the country's first all-race elections on April 26-28 which the Zulu leaders are boycotting.

Mr. Buthelezi, President F.W. de Klerk, Mr. Mandela and Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini attended Friday's peace summit in a remote bush lodge in the Kruger National Game Park.

Mr. Buthelezi, speaking before going into a six-hour meeting of the Inkatha Central Committee in the KwaZulu capital of Ulundi, bitterly attacked the emergency rule, referring to "strong-arm tactics" on the part of the government and ANC.

"People are incensed at it," he said.

Balladur brushes aside flap on China trip

PARIS (R) — Prime Minister Edouard Balladur said Saturday his visit to China was a success, despite a human rights flap, and held out hope for major business deals for French industry and wheat farmers.

Mr. Balladur, who faces record 12.2 per cent unemployment in France, said government ministers would follow him in visiting China to strengthen economic ties.

"The Chinese believe that in a whole series of areas French industry can help them a great deal and thus also help create jobs in our country," he said.

He cited opportunities for French exports of electric power plants, telecommunications equipment and wheat.

Asked if the detention of the two dissidents bothered him, Mr. Balladur said that as countries' economies came closer

together, so their attitudes to human rights would have to converge.

In a clear reference to the dissidents, he said he brought up "specific problems" privately with Chinese authorities.

"It seemed to me that it was more effective to remain discreet because one thing that must be avoided is to offend one's listener needlessly," he said.

He added: "As far as we French are concerned, we must do two things at the same time — affirm our general convictions, which is our right, and at the same time respect the behaviour and convictions of others so that little by little through understanding and dialogue things evolve."

Rebels: Mexican army, landowners block peace efforts

LACANDON JUNGLE, Mexico (R) — Peace talks between indigenous Maya guerrillas and the Mexican government are being blocked by Mexico's armed forces and the violent attitude of local landowners, the rebels' main spokesman said.

In an interview with Reuters at a rebel stronghold in the Lacandon Jungle near the Guatemalan border, the rebel spokesman and military leader known as "Marcos" said political conditions did not exist at the moment for more peace talks in the southern state of Chiapas, although he did not rule out their eventual resumption.

"The conditions definitely do not exist right now," Commander Marcos told Reuters, his features shrouded by his trademark black ski-mask and a bandolier of shotgun shells over his shoulder.

As several heavily-armed Zapatista fighters looked on, Commander Marcos said the recent murder by a local landowner of a Zapatista leader and suspicious troop movements by the Mexican army

had created tensions that ran counter to the climate of peace sought by government peace envoy Manuel Camacho Solis.

He accused the army of bringing elite paratroopers into the area to prepare a possible offensive against the rebels, who rose up in arms on Jan. 1 to demand justice for Mexico's downtrodden indigenous peoples and nationwide democratic reforms.

The army has denied reinforcing its positions in Chiapas, saying any movements were aimed only at rotating personnel out of the state, one of Mexico's poorest and most conflictive.

But Marcos said the army had stepped up its presence to around 30,000 troops.

"What they are doing is repositioning their paratroopers and sappers" in the area near the Guatemalan border to act as a "hammer" against the rebels if a two-and-a-half month ceasefire between the two sides is broken, Commander Marcos said.

Guatemalan counterinsurgency troops would then act as an "anvil" in a coordinated

attack on the Zapatista rebels, he alleged, in a manoeuvre the rebels see as an effort at "isolation, at eliminating the guerrillas as a voice in society, stopping us saying what we say and doing what we do."

Peace envoy Camacho, a former foreign minister, recently returned to Chiapas from Mexico City after a prolonged absence following the March 23 assassination of Luis Donaldo Colosio, the presidential candidate of Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI).

The Zapatista rebels blamed antidemocratic elements of the PRI for the killing and said it could be used as an excuse for renewed military attacks against the rebels.

Commander Marcos said the murder of a Zapatista leader by a local landowner exemplified what he called the hostile attitude of farmers and ranchers to rebel demands for a fairer system of land ownership and an end to oppression of indigenous peoples.

"Francisco", a second-level or deputy member of the Zapatista clandestine lead-

ership committee, was shot dead by a farm-owner last Thursday in an area of no man's land between rebel and government forces, he said.

"The murder of this colleague contradicts the climate of peace," Commander Marcos said.

A first round of peace talks in March led to a government proposal of legal reforms and greater social spending aimed at addressing the rebels' demands. When Mr. Colosio was killed, the Zapatistas broke off consultations with their supporters aimed at preparing a second round of talks and put their forces on alert in anticipation of possible attacks.

Commander Marcos said he believed that if the rebels' supporters approved the government proposals, the government would relax the military pressure and return to negotiations.

In any case, he added, a resumption of peace talks required at least two conditions: "That the army relax its presence" in the area and "that the landowners reduce their belligerency."

Courtney Love cancels show after Cobain death

LONDON (R) — American rock singer Courtney Love Saturday cancelled a London concert after the apparent suicide of her husband Kurt Cobain, lead singer of the grunge band Nirvana. Love had been due to hold a concert at London's Astoria II venue Sunday to coincide with the release of her band Hole's new album. Nirvana was to play in London later this month.

Cobain, 27, who was at his Seattle home recovering from a drug and alcohol overdose in Rome last month, died of a shotgun wound to the head that apparently was self-inflicted. A note was recovered near the body but police refused to divulge its contents. It was not clear what travel plans Love, who has a two-year-old daughter called Frances Bean with Cobain, had made and she was not immediately available for comment on her husband's death. Cobain had admitted a long battle with heroin, but said he had vanquished the drug. Nirvana's punk-influenced raw-edged sound and the lyrics penned by Cobain propelled the band to the top of the popular music charts.

Resignation of Biosphere 2 creator tendered

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — One of the creators of Biosphere 2 resigned a week after the environmental experiment's financial backer obtained a court-order suspending him from the project. John Polk Allen, generally credited with masterminding the \$150 million private project, sent a brief letter of resignation late Friday to Texas billionaire Edward Bass, an attorney said.

The attorney, Lawrence Hecker, represents a corporation that includes Allen and other five now-suspended top managers of Biosphere 2. All six managers were suspended on March 31 under a federal court order obtained by Mr. Bass, who has financed the project. Bass has alleged financial mismanagement by the managers.

Mr. Hecker said Saturday that Mr. Allen stepped down out of concern for the project. In 1984, Mr. Allen conceived the idea that led to development and eventual construction of the three-acre (1.2-hectare) complex that includes a farm, ocean, rain forest, savannah, desert, marsh and human living area. Biosphere 2 is intended to replicate earth's environment, and the crew raises its food and recycles air, water and wastes.

Woodstock anniversary concert gets final permit

SAUGERTIES, N.Y. (AP) — The Woodstock 25th anniversary concert is on. After months of wrangling over money matters, sanitation, environmental impact and cleanup, the red tape turned to a green light. The Ulster County Health Commissioner's approval of a mass gathering permit cleared the way for concert site construction to begin in Saugerties, about 95 miles (150 kilometres) north of New York. The concert is scheduled for Aug. 13-14 and will feature 30 groups. Organisers expect about 250,000 people to attend the show. Who will play has not been announced. Michael Lang, organiser of the original concert in 1969, said the anniversary show is dedicated to the same spirit as the first. "It was about more than money in 1969, and we plan it to be that way again," he said.

Wolves flourish as bounty money dries up

MOSCOW (AP) — With bounty money drying up, Siberia's wolf population is flourishing and residents of the Omsk region fear an invasion by packs migrating over the spring ice crust, the ITAR-TASS news agency said. In Soviet times, hunters got a bounty for each wolf equal to about a month's salary. But Russia's economic crisis means there is no money for bounties, it said. As a result, systematic wolf hunting has ended. According to ITAR-TASS, game wardens in Siberia report a striking increase this year in the number of wolves, which prey on domestic animals as well as elk, deer and wild goats. Wolves are on the move at this time of year, with large packs migrating from the Tyumen region southward toward the Omsk region, ITAR-TASS said. It said the ice crust that forms over huge expanses of the Siberian wilderness during the spring cycle of thaw and frost is like a highway for wolves, enabling them to cover long distances, the report said.

Japan coalition seeks new premier

OKYO (R) — Japan's ruling coalition, teetering on the brink of collapse, suspended its Sunday aimed at papering over a gaping rift and agreeing a successor to departing Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Two days of fruitless horse-drawn following Mr. Hosokawa's sudden decision today to resign because of a scandal after eight, often turbulent, months in office.

By Sunday evening, coalition negotiators had managed to agree on just one thing — to spend the talks until Monday.

"Discussions will continue until we want all the leaders, including potential successors, to take part," said government spokesman Masayoshi Takemura, head of the Sakigake New Party.

The Socialist Party, the biggest in the unlikely alliance, is the unlikely ally of the hard-left, sided with Mr. Hosokawa and rejected the idea of resuming talks Sunday.

"We don't think we're going to get anywhere without the all players taking part, this includes all the candidates who could replace Hosokawa," said Socialist official in parliament. "We've stated top-level talks for noon Monday."

Mr. Hosokawa's resignation remains a caretaker until a successor is chosen — is sparked a power struggle within the fractious alliance now polarised into two opposing camps.

Foreign Minister Tsutomu Matsunaga, who is also deputy premier, has emerged as a strong candidate backed by his own influential Shinseitō (Japan Renewal Party), the Komeito (Clean Government Party) and Mr. Hosokawa's Japan New Party.

Opposed to him were several other groups led by the Socialists and Mr. Takemura's Sakigake. They suspect Mr. Matsunaga's patron, Shinseitō boss Hiro Ozawa, of conniving to create a big conservative party and take control of government.

Mr. Ozawa, who masterminded the coalition's creation last August, has been trailed by controversy and allegations of scandal despite repeated denials. Talk is rife that he aims to form a new alliance with one of his former associates in the once-dominant Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and part ways with the unpredictable Socialists and his rival Mr. Takemura.

Mr. Ozawa and Mr. Hata led an LDP revolt last year after their mentor and party boss was implicated in a big payoff scandal that eventually cost the conservatives their 38-year grip on power. The two armed the Shinseitō that now outmaneuvers the coalition, to the chagrin of Mr. Takemura and other party leaders.

Mr. Takemura said his party might accept Mr. Hata as prime minister but only on condition Mr. Ozawa agrees to let him meddle in government. He added that, regardless of the takes over for the time being, Japan was entering a period of broad political reconfiguration.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mobutu promulgates new constitution

KINSHASA (R) — Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko has signed an act promulgating a new constitution, setting in motion a 10-day scramble by the opposition to choose a prime minister. State radio said Mr. Mobutu, who rarely strays from his northern palace of Gbadolite, signed the act Saturday evening. That means the opposition, which under the act has the right to choose the premier, has 10 days to agree on a candidate acceptable to its various factions. Few believe the opposition can respond that quickly. The Sacred Union coalition that has campaigned for democratic reform for three years has recently shown signs of splintering. Its radical wing wants veteran opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi, elected premier in 1992 by the national conference but later fired by his arch foe Mr. Mobutu, to be reconfirmed. Moderates and centrists, disillusioned by Mr. Tshisekedi's repeated failure to seize the political initiative, are pressing for a range of alternative candidates to try to bring order to Zaire which has been in a state of political chaos since democratic reforms were initiated four years ago.

Ukrainian navy clashes with Russian sailors

MOSCOW (AP) — Ukrainian Border Guards tried to stop a Russian military vessel from loading navigational equipment at the Ukrainian port of Odessa, but the conflict was defused peacefully, reports said Saturday. It was the latest flareup of tensions between Ukraine and Russia over the ships and equipment of the Black Sea Fleet, which has been under their joint control since the breakup of the Soviet Union. Most of the fleet's personnel want it to belong to Russia. Ukraine has formed its own small navy. The Russian Black Sea Fleet vessel Cheleken docked at Odessa on Friday to load the equipment and carry it to the fleet's headquarters, Sevastopol, news reports said. According to the Interfax News Agency, the equipment belonged to Odessa's port and the fleet was reclaiming it because Ukraine had not paid its debts for use of the equipment. Andrei Grachev, a spokesman for the Black Sea Fleet, told ITAR-TASS the Cheleken was just taking Russian-owned equipment for repairs. But Ukrainian officials said the Cheleken's crew did not have the authority to take the equipment and were trying to smuggle it out. The Ukrainian Navy ordered armed Border Guards to be stationed near the ship to prevent loading. The Cheleken's officers then called in armed Russian sailors, who boarded the ship and arrested one of the Ukrainian officers. ITAR-TASS quoted a Ukrainian report on the incident as saying, "the situation grew heated," and that only interference from a top Ukrainian naval official "prevented bloodshed and helped free" the detained officer.

Ukraine agrees to close Chernobyl reactors

WASHINGTON (R) — Ukrainian officials agreed to close the two remaining operating reactors at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant if the country gets alternative power sources, the U.S. Energy Department said. The department said Ukrainian Vice Prime Minister Valeriy Shmarov and a U.S. delegation agreed in principle to pursue the shut-down of the reactors at the Ukrainian plant where explosions in 1986 triggered the world's worst nuclear accident, that led to at least 8,000 deaths. Ukraine had said it would close Chernobyl only if it was replaced with other nuclear energy sources, but with this deal it agreed to work with the United States to explore other energy sources and conservation measures, the department said. Deputy Energy Secretary Bill White, who led the U.S. delegation, said this was the first time a deal leading to eventual closure of Chernobyl was put in writing. Mr. White, at a news conference upon returning from Kiev, said the agreement "commits Ukraine to cease operations at the earliest possible time." But he said he was not sure if Ukraine's parliament would have to approve a final shut-down.

Australian premier arrives in Hanoi

HANOI (R) — Australian Prime Minister Paul Keating arrived in Hanoi Sunday for a three-day visit that will include talks with Vietnamese leaders on trade and human rights. Mr. Keating, the first Australian prime minister to visit Vietnam since the end of the Vietnam War in 1975, was met at the Hanoi airport by Deputy Foreign Minister Le Mai. He went directly to his hotel and planned a sightseeing tour of Hanoi's old quarter later in the day. He will be officially welcomed at the presidential palace Monday and will meet Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. President Le Duc Anh and other Vietnamese officials for a full day of talks. Mr. Keating has said he will make his unhappiness with Vietnam's human rights record clear during the talks, but that human rights concerns should be considered as only part of the total relationship between the two countries. Vietnam has in the past been sensitive about Western pressure on human rights, which it views as an intrusion into its internal affairs. Swedish Prime Minister Carl Bildt raised the issue during talks with Mr. Kiet last week and termed the response a "slight disappointment."

ANC probes charge against Mrs. Mandela

CAPE TOWN (R) — The African National Congress (ANC) said it was probing fraud charges against Winnie Mandela, estranged wife of ANC leader Nelson Mandela and a likely member of the first all-race parliament. The charges, including misappropriation of American donations to the ANC, were revealed in a newspaper report on a secret internal ANC enquiry into Mrs. Mandela's management of its Welfare Department in May 1992 amid allegations of fraud.

Hornets improve slim playoff hopes

The Associated Press

LARRY Johnson scored 20 points and Tyrone Bogues had 19 points and 13 assists Saturday night as the Charlotte Hornets improved their slim playoff hopes with a 127-122 overtime victory over the Philadelphia 76ers in Philadelphia.

The Hornets, with eight games remaining, must catch either Miami, Indiana or New Jersey to get a postseason berth. They now trail the Pacers and Nets by four games.

Charlotte had a 117-110 lead after Johnson's layup with 30 seconds left in regulation. But Clarence Weatherspoon's 3-point shot and a layup by Dana Barros pulled the 76ers to 117-115 with 18 seconds remaining.

Bogues made one of two free throws two seconds later, but Barros hit a 28-foot 3-pointer at the buzzer to send the game into overtime.

The 76ers never caught up as the Hornets scored the first seven points of the extra period.

Weatherspoon and Jeff Malone had 24 points each for Philadelphia.

In Houston, Vernon Maxwell scored 27 points, overshadowing the centre showdown between Hakeem Olajuwon and David Robinson as Houston beat San Antonio.

The Rockets increased their lead over the Spurs to two games in the Midwest Division and evened the season series at 2-2. The teams meet again April 19 at San Antonio.

A sellout crowd to see Olajuwon battle Robinson, but both big men were saddled with five fouls in the final eight minutes.

Olajuwon finished with 20 points and 13 rebounds. Robinson, after scoring only one point in the first quarter when the Spurs had just nine, led San Antonio with 30, including 15 after drawing his fifth foul with 8:10 left in the game.

In Miami, Shaquille O'Neal, limited to 10 points through three periods, scored Orlando's first five of the fourth quarter, sparking a 14-4 spurt that lifted the Magic over Miami.

Orlando defeated the Heat for the third time in five meetings to win the season series for the first time in the team's five-year history. The Heat lost all three games at Miami arena this season.

In Atlanta, Stacey Augmon hit 12 consecutive shots and scored 26 points for Atlanta against Washington.

Kevin Willis had 25 points and grabbed 15 rebounds for the Hawks, who shot 60 percent from the field in winning for just the second time in five games.

Mitchell Butler scored 21 points and Tom Gugliotta and Rex Chapman 15 each for the Bulls, who remained in last place in the Atlantic Division.

In Minneapolis, Chris Mullin scored a season-high 29 points and Latrell Sprewell added 11 of his 17 points in the fourth quarter for Golden State against Minnesota.



SOCCER ACTION: Chelsea's Gavin Peacock (centre) breaks through the Luton defence to open the scoring during the FA semi-final at Wembley Stadium in London. Chelsea defeated Luton 2-0 and reached the first FA Cup final for 24 years (AFP photo)

EUROPEAN SOCCER ROUNDUP Southampton win 5-4 at Norwich

Agencies

MATT LE Tissier scored three and defender Ken Monkou netted the winner with only seconds remaining as the English premier league relegation-threatened Southampton won 5-4 at Norwich Saturday.

In a see-sawing game at Carrow Road, Norwich led 3-1 and 4-3, thanks to two goals from Chris Sutton and others from Mark Robins and Jeremy Goss.

But an own goal by Norwich defender Robert Ullathorne and three strikes from Le Tissier pulled the Saints level before Dutch defender Monkou netted the winner.

Tottenham slipped closer to danger by losing 1-0 at Coventry, whose scorer from the penalty spot was Zimbabwean Peter Ndlovu.

But Everton improved its chances of staying up by winning 1-0 at West Ham, former Hammers' striker Tony Cottee scoring the only goal.

Another struggler, Manchester City, came from behind to gain a 2-1 victory over third place Newcastle. Scott Sellars fired Newcastle ahead but City replied through Paul Walsh, his third goal in four games, and David Brightwell, his first ever for the club.

The results mean that Southampton move up one place to drop Sheffield United, which was idle Saturday, down to next-to-last.

Everton leapfrogged Tottenham, which now is 18th, only three points above the relegation zone.

Manchester City has moved up to the comparative safety of 15th of the 22 teams.

Liverpool downed Ipswich 1-0 thanks to Julian Dicks' second half penalty and Sheffield Wednesday downed Queens Park Rangers 3-1. Mark Bright scored twice and John Sheridan netted from a penalty as Wednesday raced into a 3-0 lead by the 31st minute before Devon White replied for Rangers.

At Wembley, Gavin Peacock, the diminutive striker with a taste for the big occasion, scored both goals as Chelsea beat Luton 2-0 in their F.A. Cup semi-final Saturday.

Peacock, with four goals in the previous rounds including the winner in the quarter-finals, gave Chelsea a dream start with the opener in the 13th minute of the Wembley semi-final.

And the striker whose goals have beaten Manchester United twice this season, struck again just two minutes after half time to sap the fight from their first division opponents and book Chelsea their first F.A. Cup final appearance in 24 years.

Munich beat Frankfurt 2-0.

Lothar Matthaus converted a penalty kick after a controversial call in the 54th minute Saturday, giving Bayern Munich a 2-1 victory over Eintracht Frankfurt in a duel between the top clubs in Germany's first division.

Frankfurt players were stunned when midfielder Slobodan Komljenovic was whistled as Bayern's Adrian Schupp fell chasing the ball, setting up Matthaus' winning goal.

The victory consolidated Bayern's four-point lead atop the Bundesliga with four games remaining.

Saturday's loss dropped Frankfurt into sixth place six points back, and moved Bayer Leverkusen into second after its 2-1 victory Saturday over SC Freiburg.

In other games Saturday, it was: Dynamo Dresden 1, Schalke 0; VfB Stuttgart 3, Karlsruhe SC 0; Wattenscheid 3, Borussia Moenchengladbach 1; and Hamburg SV 1, Werder Bremen 1.

On Friday, Borussia Dortmund shaded Cologne 2-1, while VfB Leipzig became the first team assured of relegation after being blanked 2-0 by FC Nuremberg.

Barcelona drop vital point

Spanish champions Barcelona dropped a vital point in their bid for a fourth consecutive league title when they were held 0-0 away by struggling Logrones Saturday.

Barcelona, two points adrift of leaders Deportivo Coruna before this weekend's matches, seldom looked like scoring against a Logrones side, who at least held their own throughout the 90 minutes.

Third-placed Real Madrid slipped further off the pace when they were beaten 2-1 away by Athletic Bilbao in a match turned into a lottery by a rain-soaked pitch.

Sampras takes Japan Open title; Date wins women's crown

TOKYO (AP) — Pete Sampras, blasting at least one ace in each service game, overwhelmed American compatriot Michael Chang 6-4, 6-2 Sunday, winning his second consecutive Japan Open tennis championship.

Sampras, the world's top-ranked player, extended his winning streak to 21 matches, the longest so far on the ATP tour, as he won his sixth tournament this season. He also won the Salem Open last week in Osaka, western Japan.

"I served pretty well...So I played aggressively when he (Chang) was serving," said Sampras, who collected \$156,000 for his victory.

Chang, the second seed, won \$82,100.

"He (Sampras) served very

well today and played consistently. I should play more aggressively on his second service," Chang said.

Playing before 9,400 spectators at Ariake Colosseum, Sampras broke service in the third game after a deuce and kept the next game at love.

He let four break points slip away in the seventh game, and Chang fired three consecutive service aces in keeping the ninth game at love before Sampras served out the first set.

In the second set, Sampras broke in the first and seventh games, and then wound up the one-hour, 24-minute match with two aces.

In all, Sampras had 10 aces to Chang's four.

Japan's Kimiko Date, re-

bouncing from a 0-4 first-set deficit, beat American Amy Frazier 7-5, 6-0 and won the women's singles title for the third consecutive year.

Frazier, the fourth seed, appeared to lose concentration after losing the fifth game of the first set.

"I am not in good shape this week but I tried my best and was able to win the title," said the top-seeded Date.

Date earned \$27,000 while Frazier took home \$13,500.

The men's doubles title went to the Swedish pair of Henrik Holm and Anders Jarryd, who defeated American Patrick McEnroe and Canadian Sebastian Larue 7-6 (7-4), 6-1.

The Swedes split \$62,500 and the losing pair \$33,050.

Sanchez Vicario, Sabatini to meet in final of Amelia Island tourney

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. (AP) — Top-seeded and defending champion Arantxa Sanchez Vicario beat Martina Navratilova 6-4, 6-3 Saturday for only the second time in 15 tries, sending her into the final of the Bausch and Lomb Championships.

The victory pits Sanchez Vicario against Gabriela Sabatini, a 6-2, 6-4 winner over Lindsay Davenport in the other semifinal at Amelia Island Plantation.

The loss left Navratilova, playing her last Florida tournament, feeling good about the prospects for the rest of what she has said will be her last year on the WTA tour.

"I'm very happy with the way the week went," said Navratilova, who lost the opening match of her previous two tournaments.

"I ran out of gas...but I knew I wasn't in good condition when I got here," she added. "It would be different if I thought I was in good condition. I'm pretty encouraged. The game's there, and I know I

can get in better condition." Sanchez Vicario picked her spots to attack and wore down Navratilova, who at 37 has not won a clay-court tournament in four years, after falling behind 3-1 in the second set.

Sanchez Vicario won three of her four singles titles on clay last year and evened her record on the surface against Navratilova to 2-2.

Bekanntmachung fuer Deutsche zur Wahl zum Europaischen Parlament

Am 12. Juni 1994 findet die Wahl der Abgeordneten des Europaischen Parlaments aus der Bundesrepublik Deutschland statt.

Deutsche, die ausserhalb der Bundesrepublik Deutschland leben und dort keine Wohnung mehr innehaben, koennen bei Vorliegen der sonstigen Voraussetzungen an der Wahl teilnehmen.

Für ihre Wahlteilnahme ist u.a. Voraussetzung, dass sie

1.1 seit mindestens drei Monaten in den übrigen Mitgliedstaaten der Europäischen Gemeinschaft eine Wohnung innehaben oder sich mindestens seit dieser Zeit dort gewöhnlich aufhalten (auf die Dreimonatsfrist wird ein unmittelbar vorausgehender Aufenthalt in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland angerechnet) oder

1.2 a) in Gebieten der übrigen Mitgliedstaaten des Europarats leben oder

b) in anderen Gebieten leben und am Wahltag seit ihrem Fortzug aus der Bundesrepublik Deutschland *) nicht mehr als zehn Jahre verstrichen sind und vor ihrem Fortzug nach dem 23. Mai 1949 aus der Bundesrepublik Deutschland *) mindestens drei Monate ununterbrochen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland *) gewohnt oder sich dort sonst gewöhnlich aufgehalten haben;

und

2. in ein Wahlerverzeichnis in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland eingetragen sind. Diese Eintragung erfolgt nur auf Antrag. Der Antrag ist auf einem Formblatt zu stellen; er soll bald nach dieser Bekanntmachung abgesandt werden. Einem Antrag, der erst am 23. Mai 1994 oder später bei der zuständigen Gemeindebehörde eingeht, kann nicht mehr entsprochen werden (§ 17 Abs. 1 der Europawahlordnung).

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- den Kreis- und Stadtwahlleitern in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland angefordert werden

Weitere Auskünfte erteilen die Botschaften und beruicksundarischen Vertretungen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Amman im März 1994
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GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF
& TAMAR HIRSCH
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ONE, TWO, THREE FINESSES

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 8 7 6

♥ 8 6

♦ 5 4 3 2

♣ K Q J 5

EAST

♠ 10 5 4 3

♥ 10 7 5 4 2

♦ A 10 8

♣ Q J 9 6

Void

SOUTH

♠ A K J

♥ A Q 9

♦ K 7

♣ A 10 6 4 2

The bidding:

South West North East

2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠

Here's a hand that is a finesse's

paradise. Three entries to dummy

and three simple finesses to take.

What an irony that all the finesses

fall and the winning line requires

only one of those entries and a simple

endplay. All you have to do is

spot it.

The auction would meet anyone's

standards. With a combined count

of 27 and fillers in South's five-card

suit, life should be simple. And it is

for a good dummy player.

The odds on winning one of three

finesses is a little short of 90 percent

and that would be good enough for

most players. But why settle for less

than the whole lot?

Assume declarer plays is to win

the first club in dummy. There are

eight fast tricks and just one more in

any of the suits barring clubs will

give you the game. When you discover

the 4-0 club split, cash three

more club tricks, ending on the table,

to strip the defenders of all their

cards in that suit. What now?

The sure-trick line is to lead a

heart and simply cover any card

that East produces. If East plays

low, your plan should be to insert

the nine to endplay West. But let's

suppose that an enterprising

defender inserts the ten. You simply

cover with the queen and, although

that loses to the king, your A-9 still

constitutes a major tenace.

In with the heart. West must

do your work for you. No matter which

suit that defender returns it will

present you with the fulfilling trick.

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PHILADELPHIA		PLAZA		CONCORD		AMMOUN THEATRE		Nabil Al Mashini Theatre	AHLAN THEATRE
DEAD AGAIN Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Robby Benson & Jennifer O'Neil in INVASION OF PRIVACY Shows: 12:30, 3:15, 5, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30		CONCORD '1' DRACULA Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30 CONCORD '2' SOMMERSBY Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30		Opening Soon A political comedy Forbidden x Forbidden		Look out for the surprise in the coming play	Two more weeks before the performances of the political comedy "Ahlam Arab Summit Conference" Come to an end

NEWS IN BRIEF

Truce comes to bloody end in Kabul

KABUL (R) — A temporary U.N.-brokered truce came to a bloody end Sunday when rockets slammed into a downtown market, wounding 20 people, hospital officials said. The attack between Afghanistan's rival factions was the first since a United Nations peace mission began shuttling between the warring factions more than a week ago. Tunisia's ex-foreign minister, Mahmoud Mestiri, is heading a U.N. peace delegation trying to end nearly two years of vicious factional fighting in Afghanistan. Mr. Mestiri spent five days in the war-ravaged capital last weekend. He was meeting Sunday with Afghan leaders in Pakistan's rugged border town of Peshawar. The peace delegation is to travel to the northern Afghan city of Mazar-e-Sharif, controlled by Uzbek warlord Rashid Dostum, and to the western Afghan city of Herat and the southern city of Kandahar. Last Jan. 1, General Dostum joined Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar in a bloody attempt to topple President Burhanuddin Rabbani. Mr. Rabbani's forces have managed to cling to key military sites in and around Kabul, but casualties have been high. At least 1,100 people have died since Jan. 1 and another 12,000 have been injured, according to the Red Cross.

Egypt plans Golden Gate look-alike

PORT SAID (AP) — Egypt hopes to build a bridge over the Suez Canal modelled on San Francisco's Golden Gate, a canal official said Sunday. Azzat Adel, director of the Suez Canal Authority, said President Hosni Mubarak would seek a 700 million-Egyptian pound (\$208 million) loan on a visit to Japan next week for the bridge's construction. The bridge will be 69 metres high to allow supertankers to pass underneath and will be built on a chosen site towards the canal's southern end, Mr. Adel said. The Suez Canal connects the Mediterranean Sea and the Gulf of Suez. The planned bridge, with its approaches, will be about 10 kilometres long, the canal official said. San Francisco's Golden Gate bridge, the world's second-longest suspension bridge, has a span of about 4,400 metres and was built in 1937. Mr. Adel noted plans call for one design difference from the original: Barriers will be built along the sides to prevent motorists from throwing cigarettes on ships below.

Yemeni minister ends Tehran visit

NICOSIA (AP) — Yemen's foreign minister, Mohammad Salem Bassindawh, left Tehran Sunday following discussions with Iranian officials on trade and cultural ties and developments in his troubled country. The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) said President Hashemi Rafsanjani called for stronger ties with Yemen and pledged his country's willingness to help preserve the unity of Yemen. IRNA said Mr. Bassindawh also met with Commerce Minister Yahya Al-Eshagh, who called for the use of Iran's merchant fleet to boost trade between the two countries. Iran's minister of higher education, Mohammad Reza Ghojpayegani, advocated an expansion of education and cultural ties with Yemen in a meeting with Mr. Bassindawh, who arrived in Tehran Thursday.

French defence minister visits Oman

MUSCAT (AP) — French Defence Minister Francois Leotard arrived Sunday for a two-day visit aimed at boosting arms sales in the Gulf and military links with the strategic oil-rich region. Before leaving Paris, Mr. Leotard told the Oman News Agency in Paris Saturday that his visit, the latest in a string of Gulf tours by senior French officials, was aimed at expanding cooperation "on the strategic issues that extend through the region in which Oman plays a positive role." Mr. Leotard said the southern Gulf sultanate was increasingly important for France. Oman shares control of the Strait of Hormuz, gateway to the Gulf and a key oil supply route, with Iran. Oman is traditionally armed by Britain, but Cherbourg-based shipbuilders construction Mechaniques de Normandie last year sold Oman three fast patrol boats. The value of the deal has not been disclosed, but delivery is scheduled for next year. Five French warships took part in joint naval manoeuvres with Oman in 1992. The French are striving to enlarge their share of the Gulf defence market and are pushing the Dassault Mirage 2000-5 and next-generation Rafal fighters. France is also vying with the United States and Britain to sell anti-submarine systems, such as Atlantique maritime patrol aircraft, to counter Iran's acquisition of Russian Kilo-class subs, which has forced the Gulf states to reexamine their naval priorities.

Palestinian factions concede losses in clash

SIDON (AP) — Two Palestinian factions said Sunday three of their guerrillas were killed in a clash with Israeli troops in South Lebanon. Security sources earlier reported that Iranian-backed fighters were believed killed in Saturday's fighting. The factions said in a joint communique in this southern city that the clash occurred in the central sector of an Israeli-occupied border enclave. The statement was issued by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) led by George Habbash and a breakaway faction of Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat's main-stream Fatah faction. Security sources on Saturday said the killed guerrillas were thought to be members of Hizbollah, Iran's main ally in Lebanon. But Hizbollah did not claim responsibility. The sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the guerrillas were killed while trying to infiltrate the enclave. Sunday's statement identified the squad leader as Issa Ahmad Dalloul, 25, a Syrian member of the PFLP. The other two were identified as Riyad Ahmad Ali, 23, and Hassan Muhammad Yusuf, 19, both Palestinians from an unspecified Fatah faction. It said all three guerrillas were residents of Garunana Palestinian refugee camp near Damascus. Fatah loyalists have ceased guerrilla attacks from South Lebanon since the PLO and Israel signed the limited autonomy accord Sept. 13. But several factions angered by the accord splintered and resumed guerrilla activity with Syria's blessing.

Kuwait announces public works contracts

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's Boodai Construction Company won a 4.66 million dinar (\$15.8 million) government contract to build water tanks in Kuwait City's Shweikh area, the central government committee said on Sunday. The job for the Ministry of Electricity and Water is to build and maintain a 55 million gallon water tank and a 7.5 million gallon water tank. Boodai was lowest bidder. Mahmoud Khalid Company for Trade and Contracts won a 3.1 million dinar (\$10.4 million) contract for treating solid industrial waste, it added. It was the lowest bid.

Hong Kong students protest Chinese sentence

HONG KONG (AP) — More than 200 students marched to a Chinese agency in this British colony Sunday to protest China's 12-year prison sentence for a Hong Kong newspaper's reporter accused of stealing state secrets. Shouting slogans and carrying banners calling for press freedom, the protesters demanded that China release reporter Xi Yang, who works for the Hong Kong newspaper Ming Pao. Mr. Xi, a Chinese citizen, was arrested last September on charges of stealing secrets about interest rates and gold sales. He was sentenced by a Beijing court earlier this month. Sunday's student protest, outside the Hong Kong branch of Beijing's Xinhua news agency coincided with the ending of a 72-hour hunger strike there by three senior executives of Ming Pao. Among those staging the hunger strike to protest Mr. Xi's sentence was Cheung Kin-Bor, executive chief editor of the Chinese-language newspaper. On Saturday, about 200 Hong Kong journalists demonstrated outside Xinhua, which serves as China's official embassy in the colony.

Jackson calls on Arafat to condemn Afula car-bombing

BETHLEHEM, occupied West Bank (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson said Sunday that he has urged Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat to condemn the suicide bombing that killed seven Israelis and discussed early implementation of autonomy with him.

Mr. Jackson said he had talked by telephone to Mr. Arafat in Tunis twice, once Sunday while visiting Bethlehem and earlier in the weekend from Jerusalem. Most Israelis were incensed that Mr. Arafat said nothing about the bombing.

Mr. Jackson said the two had discussed pushing for the earliest possible implementation of Palestinian self-rule in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and he urged the PLO leader to arrive at the start to see the changes through.

"In my judgment Arafat should come here early. Once he is on the ground, things will change," Mr. Jackson said.

The U.S. civil rights leader is due to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Monday.

During repeated speaking engagements Mr. Jackson urged the Palestinians not to turn to violence because of problems in the peace process, to instead consider how far they had come from the days when they were not recognised as a people.

Mr. Jackson called on Israel to ease the indefinite closure in place for three days, reaffirmed by the cabinet on Sunday, that will keep all two million Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip out of Israel itself.

"Jerusalem must be open and people must be allowed to move freely," he said after praying at Christian, Jewish and Muslim holy sites in the occupied city. Stops included the Roman Catholic Patriarchate and Al Aqsa Mosque, the third holiest site in Islam.

Mr. Jackson met at city hall with the city's Israeli mayor, Ehud Olmert. The two went to pray at the western wall greeting shopkeepers, monks and tourists along the way.

Mr. Jackson was in the region to address a conference marking the 30th anniversary of the founding of the PLO, but Israeli authorities banned it as a security risk.

Mr. Jackson toured the West Bank city of Hebron on Friday. The city has been wracked by repeated violence since a Jewish settler massacred more than 30 Palestinian worshippers at a mosque on Feb. 25.

On Saturday, Mr. Jackson visited injured people from the suicide car bomb in the northern town of Afula that killed seven Israelis and wounded 45. It was claimed by the Islamic resistance movement, Hamas.

He urged both sides to put the Hebron massacre and the Afula bombing behind them and to implement the Sept. 13 Israeli-PLO accord for Palestinian self-rule.

As he toured Jerusalem on Sunday, Mr. Jackson repeated his call for conciliation in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

"Tremendous possibilities for peace are available," Mr. Jackson said after meeting with Michel Sabbah, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem. "Justice should be based on building bridges of trust between people."



Her Majesty Queen Noor during a visit to Mukheibeh on Sunday (Photo: Crystal)

Queen Noor visits Mukheibeh

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor visited Mukheibeh village in the north of Jordan Sunday to meet with the community and to inspect the progress of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's Quality of Life programme there.

A statement from the International Press Office (IPO) of the Royal Court said Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHFF) incorporated Mukheibeh in its Quality of Life project in 1991, to promote sustainable development in the village and to improve the standard of living of its 1500 inhabitants.

The foundation fosters long-term integrated socio-economic development that encourages self-sufficiency for the beneficiaries of its projects and advances democratic grassroots participation in decision-making, planning, implementation and evaluation.

NHFF implements income-generating projects that meet the basic needs of the community and utilise local natural resources in a responsible and sustainable manner, it said.

In Mukheibeh, Queen Noor honoured graduates of a basket weaving training centre. Established in 1993, the project, which is affiliated with the Jordan Design and Trade Centre (JDTC), provides job opportunities for women and generates income for needy families. In addition to helping the families become self-reliant, the project also promotes the revival of traditional Jordanian crafts and provides marketing outlets in Amman, at JDTC and through wholesalers. The project is funded by the Development and Employment Fund (DEF), a Jordanian governmental institution, and by USAID, the IPO statement said.

The Quality of Life programme sponsors other income-generating and environmentally responsible projects in Mukheibeh. These include goat raising and the production of their dairy products, and the planting of unused land for the

production of fodder.

The project also addresses Mukheibeh's educational needs by providing its kindergarten with books and educational tools.

Queen Noor also inaugurated a palm nursery on a 10-dunum plot of land which was established in cooperation with the Mukheibeh Charitable Society. The project utilises arid land and saves drinking water by exploiting sulfuric water resources, which are abundant in the area, for irrigation purposes. It also provides additional sources of income through the sale of palm tree offsets to other regions and supplies the raw material needed for basket weaving. The project was funded by a JD 20,000 grant from the Global Environment Facility, which is associated with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Queen Noor was accompanied on the visit by Mrs. Noor Izzedine and Dr. Akram Qousha, the director of the NHFF.

Kayed reelected chairman; Qudah named chief editor

AMMAN (J.T.) — The board of directors of the Jordan Press Foundation, which publishes Al Ra'i and the Jordan Times, reelected on Sunday Mahmoud Al Kayed as chairman of the board and Abdel Ilah Al Tabbaa as vice-chairman. Mr. Kayed, who was until now full-time chief responsible editor of Al Ra'i, was also named head of the editorial board of the newspaper.

Mr. Kayed served as the chief responsible editor of Al Ra'i for nearly 20 years.

Suleiman Al Qudah, who

has been serving as assistant chief editor, was appointed chief responsible editor of the newspaper, according to the board of directors' decision on Sunday.

Mr. Qudah is also president of the Jordan Press Association (JPA), the umbrella organisation for Jordanian journalists.

The Jordan Press Foundation Company Limited is the Kingdom's largest newspaper establishment. Al Ra'i is the largest-circulation daily newspaper in Jordan.

Israel, PLO resume talks

(Continued from page 1)

be armed with a Kalashnikov rifle, and that the force will have 100 machine guns.

The paper, quoting unnamed Palestinians close to the talks, also said that a number of other troublesome issues had been resolved.

Four routes will be available for Palestinians to move from the seaside Gaza Strip to Jericho, although control of the passages has not yet been resolved.

Some 800,000 Palestinians, all 1967 refugees and their descendants, will be "eligible" to apply for return to the territories over the next three years.

Jewish settlements and Israeli security posts for the settlements will take up about 10 per cent of Gaza's land, down from nearly half under Israel's initial proposal.

The Independent said it obtained details of the agreements, including plans for a "security committee" to prevent each side's forces from attacking the other, but many more issues remained outstanding.

"Details of the secret agreements reached between the PLO and the Israelis... make it plain that the two sides have no hope of meeting Wednesday's Israeli withdrawal deadline," the paper said.

"A mass of unresolved details could still put back the PLO's takeover of Gaza city and Jericho by weeks."

The paper said the United States had agreed to provide the PLO with military trucks and heavy jeep blazers in a bid to speed up the deployment of Palestinian security forces in Gaza and Jericho.

It said the two sides had agreed that a PLO police force for Gaza City and Jericho could number at least 6,500 and a maximum of 9,000, armed with Kalashnikov rifles and equipped with Egyptian-made armoured vehicles.

A controversial "joint security committee" would hold

weekly meetings attended by PLO and Israeli intelligence service members to prevent the two sides shooting at each other, it said.

Israeli Brigadier Gadi Zohar, asked by reporters in Cairo if the PLO and Israel would reach agreement soon, said, "We all hope."

The negotiators met for about 90 minutes in the morning, broke for lunch and then went back to talking.

Dr. Shaath told reporters during the break that they had not yet reached any decisions. The Israelis declined comment.

Israeli leaders last week predicted agreement by the end of the month on the self-rule plan agreed in September.

But Dr. Shaath said that in the last round of talks in Cairo last week the Israelis raised the new issue in the debate on legal jurisdiction in the Gaza Strip and Jericho after the Israelis hand over authority to Palestinians.

He said the Israelis wanted to extend their jurisdiction to include "every non-Palestinian, in violation of the declaration of principles (signed in September), which said there was no exception except for an Israeli."

"The legal jurisdiction is the problem they (Israelis) invented last week. It is so flagrant. It is an obstruction tool. If they insist on their position, there won't be an agreement," Dr. Shaath said.

"This has no basis. It is not a negotiating point. They are just trying to make obstacles to delay the signing. We will take it as a ploy to procrastinate," he added.

Palestinian sources said the Israelis also wanted the agreement to specify that Israeli law applied to Palestinians who attack Israelis and wanted to protect collaborators by retaining a veto over Palestinian court verdicts.

"They don't want us to have any of the signs of statehood," said one source close to the PLO delegation.

COLUMN

Diana set to be Red Cross roving envoy

LONDON (R) — Princess Diana is poised to become a roving ambassador for the British Red Cross, spending more time abroad and ending her self-imposed exile from public life, a British newspaper reported. The Sunday Times said Princess Diana had been negotiating details of her new role with the director-general of the British Red Cross, Mike Whitlam, and an announcement was due shortly. The Princess of Wales, estranged wife of heir-to-the throne Prince Charles, has rarely been seen in public since her retreat from the spotlight four months ago. The move would make her the Red Cross' most glamorous figurehead since the late Princess Grace of Monaco, who adopted the movement as her favourite charity. "If the Princess of Wales does choose the Red Cross that will be terrific for us," the paper quoted Mr. Whitlam as saying. He said Princess Diana was considering spending time abroad for the charity but he had not yet been informed of her final decision. The British Red Cross has a strong tradition of links with the royal family. Queen Elizabeth II is its patron and president and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother is deputy president.

Tokyo Disneyland doing well

CHIBA, Japan (AP) — The magic kingdom is having trouble in Europe, but the Tokyo Disneyland thrives, more than 10 years after Mickey Mouse and his gang opened the gates to free-spending Japanese. "I love it here," said Takamasa Mochizuki, 7, giggling at a mockup of native Americans burning a settler's cabin. "It makes me afraid and then it makes me happy." The Tokyo theme park proved naysayers wrong from the start. Instead of peaking in the first year and tapering off, as predicted, attendance has steadily increased. Even after waiting several hours for the most popular rides, people come back. "We were very nervous in the beginning, of course," said Katsuhiko Nakamura, publicity director of Oriental Land Co., Disney's licensee in Japan. "There were no 100 per cent guarantees that this would succeed." About 140 million people, 17 million more than Japan's population, have bustled through Tokyo Disneyland since 1983. Last year, they spent an average of 9,000 yen (\$85), helping make Tokyo the most profitable Disney park. Visitors to financially troubled Euro Disney spend only \$45, estimated Jeffrey Logsdon, head of the Seidler Co., a research firm. At the original Disneyland in Los Angeles and Disney World in Florida, the average is between \$60 and \$70. Tokyo Disneyland's success is due partly to its location in a Metropolitan area of 30 million people. The timing also was fortunate. Oriental Land approached Disney with the idea of building a theme park in 1962, but the deal was not made until 1979. The park is fully owned by Oriental Land Co., which licenses Disney characters and other copyrighted material from Walt Disney Productions. It opened in 1983, when the economy was booming and consumers were looking for ways to spend their unaccustomed spare cash and leisure time. After decades of hard work, the Japanese wanted to have fun. Euro Disney, by contrast, opened just in time for the European recession, leading people either to stay away or scrimp.

U.S. navy prepares sexual harassment manual

NEW YORK (AP) — The U.S. Navy has prepared a new handbook on how to recognise, prevent, and deal with sexual harassment, the New York Times reported Sunday. The 64-page manual was designed as a source for navy commanders and is to be distributed throughout the fleet by early fall, the Times said. It holds commanders responsible for eliminating sexual harassment in their ranks. The manual, Commander's Handbook of Sexual Harassment, details what kind of behaviour is allowed when caution needs to be used and what is prohibited.



An ancient decorative piece unearthed at a site 10 kilometres north of Amman (Department of Antiquities photo).

Important ruins unearthed 10 kilometres north of Amman

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Department of Antiquities on Sunday announced the discovery of the remains of what it believes to be an important ancient Roman city or settlement located about 10 kilometres north of Amman. The ruins date back to the first century BC or the first century AD, the department said.

Safwan Al Tal, director-general of the department, said archaeologists had been working since March 28, 1994 at the site in the Yajouz-Um Zweitneh district not far from the Applied Sciences University.

"We have so far uncovered the remains of a huge temple, Corinthian capitals on pillars,

portraits, architraves, relief friezes and other works of sculpture including winged horses and mythological figures," Dr. Tal said.

He said the department believes that the settlement must have existed on an area of no less than 150 dunums, and plans to acquire the plot of land.

The discovery of the ancient site came by accident as the owner of the land, Mohammad Daoud, launched construction work at the site and when workers started digging up parts of the ancient settlement's columns he alerted the Department of Antiquities, Dr. Tal said.

The site was until recently used by the Armed Forces. The Department of Antiquities has set up several teams to conduct surveys and

to clean the ancient stones.

Dr. Tal said the landowner was very cooperative and facilitated the excavations conducted so far by department teams alone.

"All indications are that the site must have comprised large buildings and that a Byzantine church could have been set up on the ancient Roman temple found there," Dr. Tal said.

After completing excavations the department will reinstall the capitals in the columns in their original positions, he said.

In Dr. Tal's view it could take the department several years to unearth the remaining parts of the settlement. The department will welcome cooperation from qualified institutions in other countries to help in this task, he said.



Digging teams at work at the site of the archaeological find (Petra photo)